



LIVE BIRTHS

State Summary

LIVE BIRTHS

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Surveillance

A **live birth** is a birth that shows any sign of life after delivery, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy. Signs of life include breathing, heartbeat, pulsation of the umbilical cord, definite movement of voluntary muscles, or any other evidence of life, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached.

Birth certificates serve as legal records of birth and identification and provide surveillance data used to monitor fertility trends, population composition and growth, and patterns in prenatal and postnatal conditions that affect the immediate and future health of newborns and mothers. Information monitored through birth surveillance includes adequacy of prenatal care, obstetric procedures, complications during delivery, method of delivery, and infant birthweight. Examination of surveillance data helps identify mothers and infants at high risk of poor outcomes and enables effective targeting of research, educational efforts, and services to reduce this risk.

Source of Data: Certificate of Live Birth

The birth section of this report is based on live births that occurred to Louisiana residents during the 1999 calendar year. The *Certificate of Live Birth* is the source document for these data. All original birth certificates are routed to the Vital Records Registry in New Orleans. Birth attendants, usually physicians or licensed midwives are responsible for recording the required information on birth certificates. Louisiana law requires that the birthing facility or attendant send the original birth record to the Vital Records Registry within fifteen days of the birth, and also requires that the identities of persons included in the birth registry are kept confidential.

Unless otherwise noted, all statistics reported here are for births to Louisiana residents, regardless of the state in which the birth occurred. The Vital Statistics Cooperative Program, a nationwide system of information interchange among all states and territories, makes possible the reporting of out-of-state births to Louisiana residents. As a result of the 1991 implementation of Louisiana's Electronic Birth Certificate (EBC) program, approximately 85% of all births are reported electronically by the hospital at which the birth occurred. Matching of infant death certificates with the corresponding birth certificates indicates that birth registration in Louisiana is approximately 97% complete.

BIRTH COUNTS AND RATES

Birth Count

In 1999, there were 67,034 live births to Louisiana residents, an increase of 261 or 0.4% from the 66,773 resident births reported in 1998 (*Figure B1, Table B1*).

Following fourteen years of declining birth numbers, this was the third consecutive year of a slight increase in the number of births in the state. The nation as a whole saw an increase of 0.45% in the number of births between 1998 and 1999.

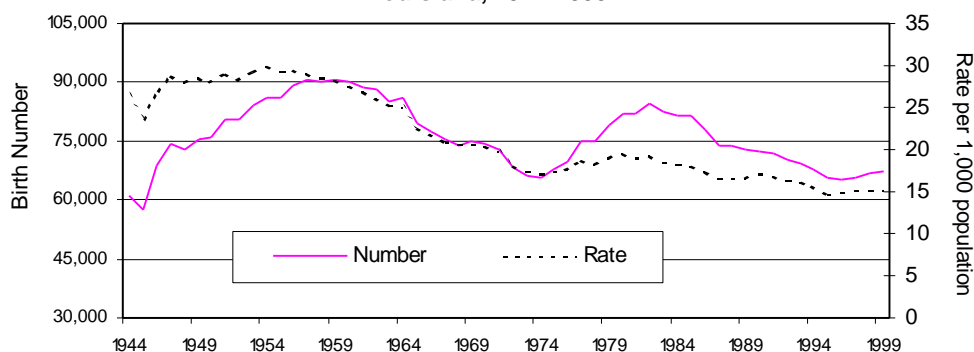
Crude Birth Rate

The **crude birth rate** measures the number of live births in a population during a given period of time. It is calculated by dividing the number of live births in a population during one year by the total population, then multiplying the quotient by 1,000. The rate is expressed as the number of live births per 1,000 total population.

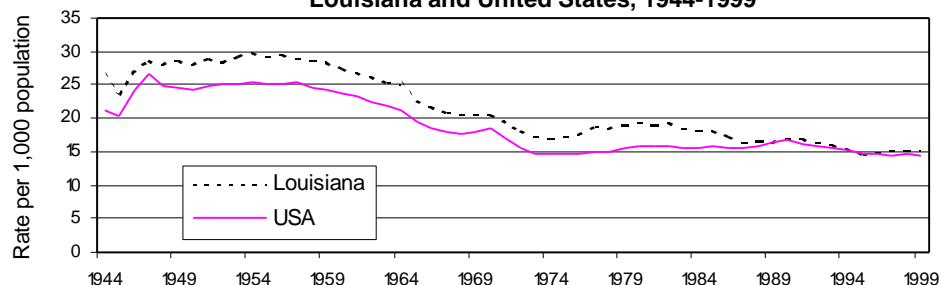
Changes in crude birth rates reflect changes in the number and age distribution of women of childbearing age. Because crude birth rates relate the number of live births to the total population in an area, without regard to the age or sex distribution of the population, they are useful in projecting population changes in the area.

Louisiana's 1999 crude birth rate of 15.3 live births per 1,000 population

**Figure B1. Birth Counts and Crude Birth Rates
Louisiana, 1944-1999**



**Figure B2. Crude Birth Rates
Louisiana and United States, 1944-1999**



equals the 1998 Louisiana rate and is slightly higher than the 1999 national rate of 14.5. Crude birth rates in Louisiana and the United States have declined steadily in the last half-century. The state's crude birth rate has declined 21.5% since 1980. During this same period, the national birth rate has declined 8.8% (*Figure B2, Table B1*).

Fertility Rates

The **fertility rate** relates the total number of births (to women of all ages) in a population to the number of women most likely to bear children - those 15 through 44 years of age. The rate is calculated by dividing the total number of live births during one year by the

population of women aged 15 through 44 years, then multiplying the quotient by 1,000. The rate is expressed as the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15 through 44 years. Because fertility rates are based solely on women in their prime childbearing years, they are more useful than crude birth rates in controlling for differences in age-distribution among women who give birth. These rates are useful for comparisons of fertility among age, racial, and socioeconomic groups.

Table B1.
Birth Counts, Percent Changes, and Crude Birth Rates,
Louisiana and United States, 1950-1999

Year	Louisiana			United States		Year	Louisiana			United States	
	Number	% Change From Previous Year	Rate*	% Change From Previous Year	Rate*		Number	% Change From Previous Year	Rate*	% Change From Previous Year	Rate*
1950	76108	1.07%	28.2	-0.47%	24.1	1975	67792	2.90%	17.4	-0.50%	14.6
1951	80256	5.45%	29.0	5.18%	24.9	1976	69678	2.78%	17.6	0.75%	14.6
1952	80476	0.27%	28.3	2.33%	25.1	1977	74989	7.62%	18.7	5.01%	15.1
1953	84108	4.51%	29.3	1.28%	25.1	1978	74831	-0.21%	18.4	0.20%	15.0
1954	86225	2.52%	29.9	2.83%	25.3	1979	79183	5.82%	19.1	4.83%	15.6
1955	86031	-0.22%	29.2	0.64%	25.0	1980	82114	3.70%	19.5	3.37%	15.9
1956	89333	3.84%	29.5	2.76%	25.2	1981	82167	0.06%	19.1	0.00%	15.8
1957	90786	1.63%	29.1	2.14%	25.3	1982	84531	2.88%	19.3	0.47%	15.9
1958	90175	-0.67%	28.6	-1.26%	24.5	1983	82416	-2.50%	18.6	1.41%	15.6
1959	90814	0.71%	28.3	0.94%	24.2	1984	81428	-1.20%	18.3	-1.13%	15.6
1960	90126	-0.76%	27.6	-0.66%	23.7	1985	81401	-0.03%	18.1	0.83%	15.8
1961	88892	-1.37%	27.0	0.25%	23.3	1986	77944	-4.25%	17.3	2.49%	15.6
1962	88005	-1.00%	26.3	-2.37%	22.4	1987	73952	-5.12%	16.6	-0.11%	15.7
1963	85334	-3.04%	25.3	-1.66%	21.7	1988	73887	-0.09%	16.7	1.41%	16.0
1964	86060	0.85%	25.0	-1.72%	21.1	1989	72639	-1.69%	16.6	2.63%	16.4
1965	79533	-7.58%	22.7	-6.63%	19.4	1990	72121	-0.71%	17.1	3.36%	16.7
1966	77223	-2.90%	21.8	-4.10%	18.4	1991	72080	-0.06%	17.0	2.90%	16.3
1967	75199	-2.62%	21.0	-2.37%	17.8	1992	70502	-2.19%	16.4	-1.14%	15.9
1968	74098	-1.46%	20.6	-0.55%	17.6	1993	69328	-1.67%	16.1	-2.69%	15.5
1969	74770	0.91%	20.7	2.82%	17.9	1994	67802	-2.20%	15.7	-1.19%	15.2
1970	74615	-0.21%	20.5	3.64%	18.4	1995	65574	-3.29%	14.7	-1.35%	14.8
1971	73014	-2.15%	19.7	-4.70%	17.2	1996	65186	-0.59%	15.0	-0.21%	14.7
1972	68340	-6.40%	18.2	-8.37%	15.6	1997	65947	1.17%	15.2	-0.27%	14.5
1973	66413	-2.82%	17.5	-3.73%	14.8	1998	66773	1.25%	15.3	1.56%	14.6
1974	65880	-0.80%	17.2	0.73%	14.8	1999	67034	0.39%	15.3	0.45%	14.5

* Rate per 1,000 population

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics,
National Vital Statistics Report, Vol.41, Final Birth Data, 1999

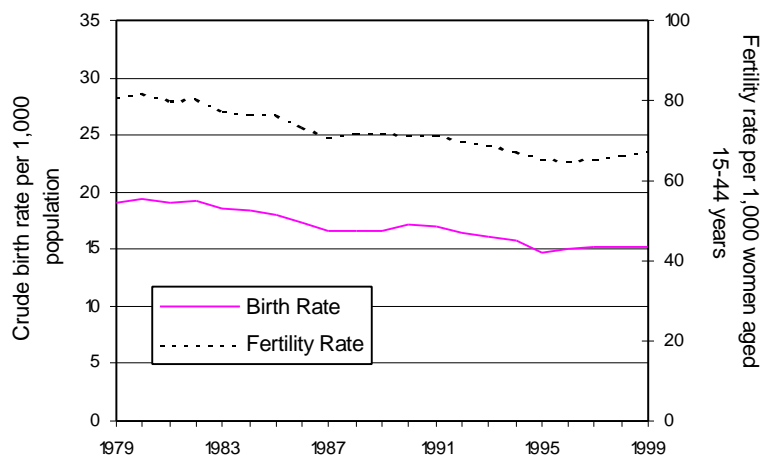
In the last half-century, Louisiana and the United States have followed a similar fertility pattern, with a trend toward declining fertility rates.

However, historically, Louisiana has had a higher fertility rate than the

national rate. Louisiana's 1999 fertility rate of 67.6 births per 1,000 women, increased from 1998's rate of 66.6 per 1,000 women. The United States 1999 rate was less at 65.9. Following a 1980 peak of 81.8, Louisiana's fertility rate

declined to 64.9 in 1996. Since 1996 the state's fertility rate has risen each year (Figure B3, Table B2).

**Figure B3. Crude Birth Rates and Fertility Rates
Louisiana, 1979-1999**



**Table B2.
Crude Birth Rates, Fertility Rates, and Age-Specific Birth Rates
Louisiana, 1979-1999**

Year	Crude Birth Rate*	Fertility Rate**	Age-Specific Birth Rate*** by Maternal Age Group								
			10-14*	15-19	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49**
1979	19.1	81.2	2.3	74.8	41.2	137.6	121.7	61.7	22.2	5.2	0.3
1980	19.5	81.8	2.0	76.0	41.8	138.7	121.9	63.4	21.4	5.4	0.4
1981	19.1	80.2	2.0	73.9	40.3	135.8	121.6	60.8	22.2	4.8	0.3
1982	19.3	80.7	2.0	75.6	40.9	138.9	120.5	63.7	21.5	5.0	0.3
1983	18.6	77.6	2.0	74.1	39.9	132.9	115.9	63.6	21.9	4.3	0.2
1984	18.3	76.5	2.4	71.6	38.6	130.8	116.5	64.9	22.3	4.2	0.3
1985	18.1	76.4	2.2	72.4	38.8	131.3	117.2	66.2	23.0	4.0	0.2
1986	17.3	73.3	2.4	68.0	36.8	128.7	114.3	64.1	23.0	4.0	0.2
1987	16.6	70.8	2.2	66.7	35.8	126.4	111.3	63.9	22.6	4.2	0.2
1988	16.7	72.2	2.2	68.4	36.2	129.8	116.0	65.8	23.8	4.4	0.2
1989	16.6	71.9	2.4	70.9	36.9	130.9	115.9	66.6	23.9	4.4	0.2
1990	17.1	71.6	2.4	74.7	38.5	132.7	114.7	66.0	25.6	4.1	0.2
1991	17.0	71.6	2.6	75.9	38.3	133.1	117.0	66.4	25.7	4.3	0.2
1992	16.4	70.1	2.3	75.9	38.0	129.7	114.6	66.9	24.8	4.2	0.2
1993	16.1	69.0	2.4	75.8	38.2	127.0	112.1	68.3	25.0	4.6	0.2
1994	15.7	67.6	2.3	74.4	37.8	122.4	110.1	69.9	25.6	4.9	0.1
1995	14.7	65.4	2.0	70.0	36.0	117.8	108.4	69.8	26.0	4.7	0.2
1996	15.0	64.9	2.2	67.0	35.4	118.2	107.2	71.3	26.7	5.1	0.2
1997	15.2	65.6	1.8	66.1	35.4	120.7	110.0	73.2	27.0	5.0	0.3
1998	15.3	66.6	1.9	65.2	35.4	124.4	111.2	74.3	28.6	4.7	0.2
1999	15.3	67.6	1.6	62.6	33.9	126.0	114.4	77.7	29.5	5.2	0.2

*Rate per 1,000 population

** Rate per 1,000 women aged 15-44

***Rate per 1,000 women in age group

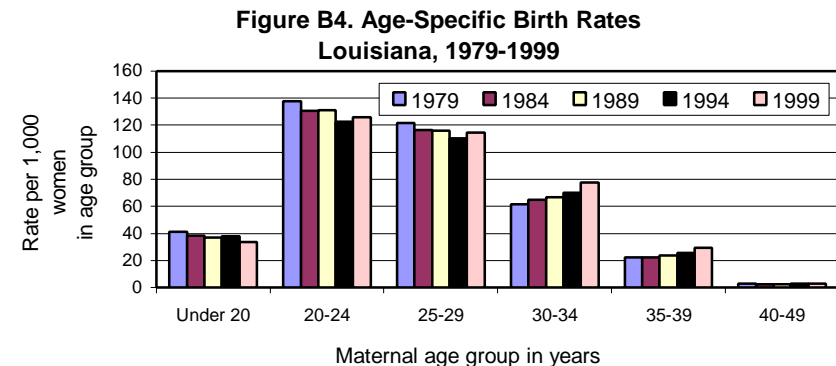
*Numerator = all live births to mothers under 15 years of age; denominator = female population 10-14 years of age.

**Numerator = all live births to mothers 45 and older; denominator = female population 45-49 years of age.

MATERNAL PROFILE

Age of Mother

The **age-specific birth rate** measures the number of live births in a specific age group during a given period of time. The rate is calculated by dividing the number of births to mothers in a particular age group during one year by the total female population in that age group, then multiplying the quotient by 1,000. The age-specific birth rate is expressed as the number of live births per 1,000 women in that particular age group. Because childbearing occurs most often in the early adult years, a woman's age is a very important factor when examining birth trends. Age-specific birth rates improve our ability to



make valid comparisons among age groups because the scope of each rate is limited to a narrow age range, which reduces the effect that age might have on the number of births being described.

Louisiana's youngest and oldest mothers were 12 and 48 years old respectively, when they gave birth in 1999. Overall birth and fertility rates

have declined since the 1980s, driven by a decrease in birth rates among women under 30 years. Increases in birth rates among women age 30-39 suggest a shift toward more women giving birth in the latter part of their childbearing years (*Figure B4, Table B2, and Table B3*). This shift is comparable to national trends in age-specific birth rates.

**Table B3.
First Birth Rates* by Maternal Age
Louisiana and United States, 1990-1999**

Year	Maternal Age Group							15-44	15-44
	Under 15**	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	Louisiana	United States
1990	2.3	54.6	56.9	36.6	14.3	3.9	0.5	27.8	29.0
1991	2.5	55.4	56.6	35.7	13.2	3.7	0.5	27.4	28.3
1992	2.2	55.0	55.0	35.4	13.5	3.9	0.5	27.1	27.8
1993	2.3	56.0	55.3	34.8	14.2	4.0	0.6	27.2	27.5
1994	2.3	55.0	54.6	35.3	15.1	4.2	0.7	27.2	27.5
1995	1.9	53.3	52.6	36.6	15.8	4.4	0.7	27.0	27.3
1996	2.1	50.8	52.0	36.9	16.9	4.4	0.8	26.7	26.8
1997	1.8	50.4	51.5	36.8	17.2	4.9	0.8	26.7	26.5
1998	1.8	50.0	51.9	35.8	17.5	5.3	0.7	26.8	26.4
1999	1.6	47.7	52.2	37.5	18.4	5.3	0.9	27.0	26.6

*First birth per 1,000 women in specified age group

**Numerator = all live births to mothers under 15 years of age; denominator = female population 10-14 years of age.

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics,
National Center for Health Statistics

Birth Order

The **first-birth rate** measures the number of first births to mothers in a particular age group. The rate is calculated by dividing the number of first births to mothers in a particular age group by the total female population in that age group, then multiplying the quotient by 1,000. It is expressed as

the number of first births per 1,000 women in that age group. First-birth rates are helpful in assessing changes over time in the age at which women begin bearing children.

Since 1990, Louisiana's first-birth rate dropped 2.9%, from 27.8 to 27.0 first births per 1,000 women aged 15-44. During the same time period, the

United States rate dropped 8.3%, from 29.0 to 26.6. Since 1991, changes in first-birth rate trends by the age of the mother have become apparent. Rates for teenage women 15-19 have dropped steadily, while rates for women 30-39 have risen steadily (*Table B3*).

Counts of 1999 live births by birth order are given in (*Table B4*).

Table B4.
Counts of Live Births by Birth Order, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Birth Order	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group									Percent of All Live Births	Maternal Age	
			Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Unk.		Mean	Median
All	All*	67034	266	11492	20922	16987	11438	4967	916	39	7	100.0	25.5	24.2
	White	38350	35	4776	10577	11058	7964	3338	573	26	*	57.2	26.5	25.8
	Black	27234	228	6567	10020	5490	3115	1490	308	12	*	40.6	23.9	22.1
1	All*	27040	261	8765	8668	5573	2714	893	160	5	*	40.3	23.0	21.6
	White	16283	35	3929	5224	4262	2032	673	123	5	-	24.3	24.1	22.9
	Black	10120	223	4712	3260	1129	570	193	32	-	*	15.1	21.0	19.6
2	All*	21734	5	2241	7375	6102	4182	1570	245	11	*	32.4	26.1	25.5
	White	13111	-	749	3760	4187	3121	1125	160	7	*	19.6	27.2	26.8
	Black	8145	5	1469	3522	1752	930	388	74	*	*	12.2	24.2	22.7
3	All*	11242	-	419	3332	3316	2683	1285	201	6	-	16.8	27.7	26.9
	White	6142	-	89	1260	1935	1857	873	125	*	-	9.2	29.1	28.7
	Black	4894	-	328	2036	1322	753	383	69	*	-	7.3	26.0	24.6
4	All*	4254	-	57	1128	1219	1095	615	133	7	-	6.3	28.8	27.8
	White	1907	-	7	275	491	660	388	82	*	-	2.8	30.6	30.7
	Black	2276	-	50	843	709	408	216	48	*	-	3.4	27.1	25.8
5	All*	1510	-	6	311	468	379	285	58	*	-	2.3	29.7	28.8
	White	539	-	-	45	131	181	148	32	*	-	0.8	32.0	31.9
	Black	940	-	6	265	324	191	129	24	*	-	1.4	28.3	26.8
6	All*	647	-	-	80	182	191	141	52	*	-	1.0	31.3	30.8
	White	194	-	-	*	31	66	64	28	*	-	0.3	34.1	33.9
	Black	435	-	-	75	148	118	72	22	-	-	0.6	29.9	28.9
7	All*	284	-	-	14	82	104	71	13	-	-	0.4	32.0	31.7
	White	68	-	-	-	13	23	28	*	-	-	0.1	34.0	33.8
	Black	213	-	-	14	69	80	41	9	-	-	0.3	31.3	30.7
8	All*	121	-	-	*	20	38	43	17	*	-	0.2	34.4	34.6
	White	28	-	-	-	*	8	14	*	-	-	0.0	35.8	36.3
	Black	90	-	-	*	18	29	29	11	*	-	0.1	33.9	33.7

***All races* contains white, black and other.

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Table B4 continues on next page.

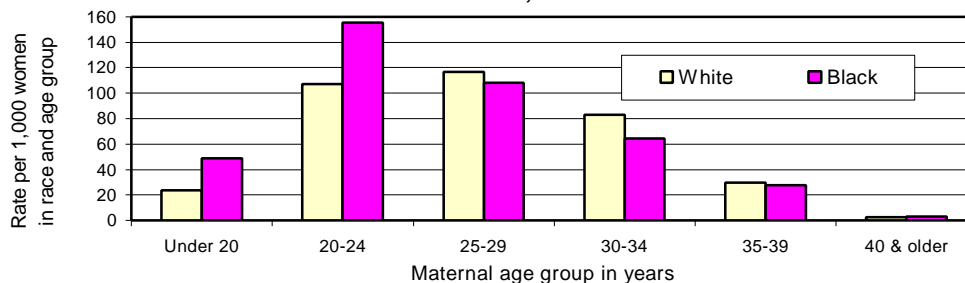
Table B4. (continued)
Counts of Live Births by Birth Order, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Birth Order	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group									Percent of All Live Births	Maternal Age	
			Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 and over	Unk.		Mean	Median
9	All*	63	-	-	-	10	24	22	7	-	-	0.1	34.3	33.8
	White	9	-	-	-	-	*	5	*	-	-	0.0	37.9	33.1
	Black	53	-	-	-	10	22	17	*	-	-	0.1	33.5	33.0
10	All*	31	-	-	-	*	9	11	6	*	-	0.0	35.6	35.6
	White	12	-	-	-	-	*	6	*	*	-	0.0	38.3	36.2
	Black	19	-	-	-	*	7	5	*	-	-	0.0	33.9	32.9
11	All*	21	-	-	-	*	*	*	10	*	-	0.0	37.7	39.3
	White	*	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	0.0	37.3	38.0
	Black	16	-	-	-	*	*	*	7	*	-	0.0	37.6	39.0
12	All*	10	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	0.0	36.8	36.0
	White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Black	10	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	0.0	36.8	36.0
13	All*	7	-	-	-	-	*	5	-	-	-	0.0	35.6	35.8
	White	*	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	0.0	33.0	33.0
	Black	6	-	-	-	-	*	5	-	-	-	0.0	36.0	36.5
14	All*	*	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	0.0	38.0	38.0
	White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Black	*	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	0.0	38.0	38.0
15	All*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	0.0	41.0	41.0
	White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Black	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16+	All*	*	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	0.0	35.0	35.0
	White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Black	*	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	0.0	35.0	35.0
Unk.	All*	67	-	*	12	9	10	16	10	*	*	0.1	32.0	33.6
	White	52	-	*	9	6	10	13	8	*	*	0.1	32.7	33.8
	Black	15	-	*	*	*	-	*	*	-	*	0.0	29.4	25.8

*"All races" contains white, black and other.

**" in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Figure B5. Age-Specific Birth Rates by Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999



Race of Mother

Of the 67,034 births to Louisiana residents, 38,350 (57.2%) were to white mothers, 27,234 (40.6%) to black mothers, and 1,450 (2.2%) to mothers of other races (*Table B5*).

Age-specific birth rates for all race groups peaked in the mothers' twenties (*Figure B5, Table B6*). Black women aged 15 through 44 years had a higher

fertility rate (78.5 births per 1,000 women) than white women (61.2 per 1,000 women). For women of all races the fertility rate of 67.6 was higher than the rate of 61.2 in white women. This racial disparity resulted from the rate at which births occurred to women under the age of 25, where age-specific birth rates for black mothers were

substantially higher than those for white mothers or mothers of other races. After the age of 25, age-specific birth rates for whites and blacks were more comparable, though white women tend to have slightly higher age-specific birth rates for women aged 25-34.

Table B5.
Counts of Live Births by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Race	Maternal Age									All Ages
	Under 15	15-19	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
All Races	266	11492	11758	20922	16987	11438	4967	916	39	67034
White	35	4776	4811	10577	11058	7964	3338	573	26	38350
Black	228	6567	6795	10020	5490	3115	1490	308	12	27234
Other	*	149	152	325	439	359	139	35	*	1450

"*" in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Table B6.
Crude Birth Rates, Fertility Rates, and Age-Specific Birth Rates by Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Race	Crude Birth Rate*	Fertility Rate**	Age-Specific Birth Rates*** by Maternal Age Group								
			10-14 ⁺	15-19	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49 ⁺⁺
All Races	15.3	67.6	1.6	62.6	33.9	126.0	114.4	77.7	29.5	5.2	0.2
White	13.3	61.2	0.4	44.8	23.9	107.3	116.6	82.9	29.8	4.9	0.2
Black	19.2	78.5	3.5	89.5	48.9	155.5	108.2	64.3	27.7	5.5	--
Other	--	79.9	1.0	41.2	22.6	106.0	147.8	134.1	48.7	11.8	--

* Rate per 1,000 population.

** Rate per 1,000 women aged 15-44.

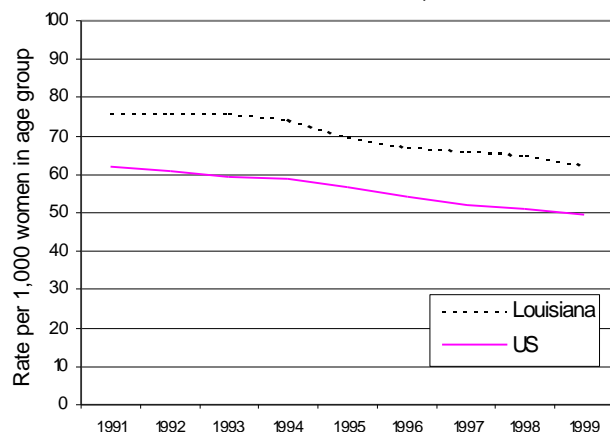
*** Rate per 1,000 women in corresponding age group.

+ Numerator = all live births to mothers under 15 years of age; denominator = female population 10-14 years of age.

++ Numerator = all live births to mothers 45 and older; denominator = female population 45-49 years of age.

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

**Figure B6. Teens Aged 15-19:
Age-Specific Birth Rates
Louisiana and United States, 1991-1999**



**Table B7.
Teens: Age-Specific Birth Rates* by Maternal Age
Louisiana and United States, 1979-1999**

Year	Louisiana			United States
	Under 15*	15-19	10-19	15-19
1979	2.3	74.8	41.2	52.3
1984	2.4	71.6	38.6	50.6
1989	2.4	70.9	36.9	57.3
1991	2.6	75.9	38.3	62.1
1992	2.3	75.9	38.0	60.7
1993	2.4	75.8	38.2	59.6
1994	2.3	74.4	37.8	58.9
1995	2.0	70.0	36.0	56.8
1996	2.2	67.0	35.4	54.4
1997	1.8	66.1	35.4	52.3
1998	1.9	65.2	35.4	51.1
1999	1.6	62.6	33.9	49.6

* Rate per 1,000 women in corresponding age group.

+ Numerator = all live births to mothers under 15 years of age;

Denominator = female population 10-14 years of age.

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics,
National Center for Health Statistics

Teen Births

A **teen birth** is defined as a birth to a woman under the age of 20 years.

Despite an overall decrease in teen birth rates over the last two decades, teenage pregnancy continues to be a problem for the nation. When compared with mothers in other age groups, teen mothers are less likely to receive adequate prenatal care and are more likely to give birth to low birthweight infants¹. Children born to teenagers are more likely to be hospitalized and go on to have childhood health problems.

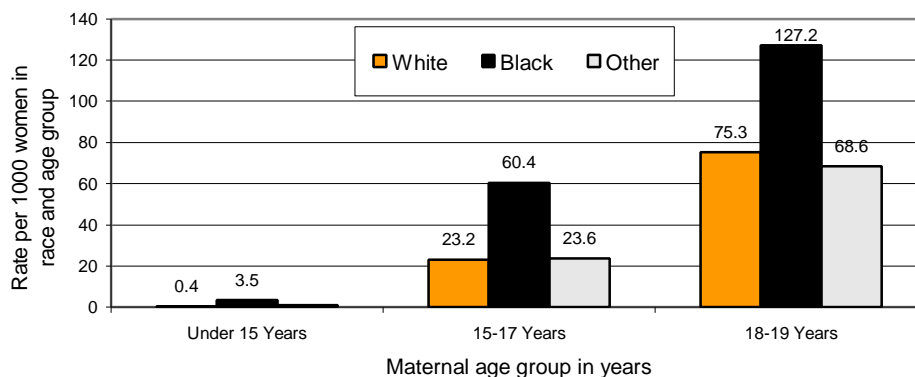
Nationally, 79%² of births to teens occur outside of marriage and 25%³ of teenage mothers go on to have more children within the next two years.

These factors, combined with the fact that teenage mothers are less likely to finish high school, contribute to the high proportion of women living in poverty who first gave birth during adolescence.

In 1993, of the 3.8 million mothers nationwide aged 15-44 who received welfare or Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), 55% first became mothers as teenagers⁴. During the fiscal year of 1995, Louisiana spent

over \$875 million on programs including AFDC, Food Stamps, WIC, and Medicaid to support teenage-headed families or families that were started when the parents were teenagers. In contrast, Louisiana spent only \$5.7 million on programs designed to prevent teenage pregnancy⁵.

There were 11,758 live births to Louisiana residents under the age of 20 years (*Table B5*). As in the United States overall, teen birth rates in Louisiana for the 15-19 years age group have declined during the 1990s (*Figure B6, Table B7*).

**Figure B7. Teens: Age Specific Birth Rates by Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999**

The birth rate for women aged 15-19 was 62.6 births per 1,000 women (*Table B8*). This rate was 26.2% higher than the 1999 national rate of 49.6 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19. The birth rate for black teenagers 15-19 in Louisiana was twice that of white teenagers in the same age group, at 89.5 versus 44.8 births per 1,000 women. Nonetheless, the birth rate for black teenage women 15-19 dropped almost 6.5% from 1998's rate of 95.7. The ratio of black to white teenage births also decreased as age increased. Black

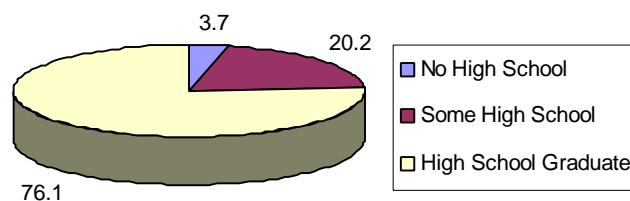
teenagers under the age of 15 gave birth more than eight times as frequently as white teenagers of the same age did, while black teenagers 18-19 gave birth less than twice as frequently as white teenagers of the same age. Teenage mothers relative to all mothers were less likely to enter prenatal care within the first trimester of pregnancy, with 70.3% of live births to women age 10-19 receiving prenatal care in the first trimester, versus 82.9% of live births to women of all ages (*Table B9*).

Teenagers were also more likely to

give birth to low birthweight infants, with 13.1% of live births to women aged 10-19 being low birthweight versus 10.0% to mothers of all ages (*Table B10*).

Education

Three-quarters (76.1%) of Louisiana's live births were born to mothers with a minimum of a high school education. When examined by race, 67.8% of black infants, and 82.3% of white infants, were born to mothers with a minimum of a high school education (*Figure B8, Table B11*).

**Figure B8. Percentage Distribution of Educational Status of Women Delivering Live Births
Louisiana, 1999****Table B8.****Teens: Age-specific Birth Rates* by Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999**

Maternal Age Group	Maternal Race			All Races
	White	Black	Other	
Under 15	0.4	3.5	--	1.6
15-17	23.2	60.4	23.6	37.8
18-19	75.3	127.2	68.6	96.5
15-19	44.8	89.5	41.2	62.6
10-19	23.9	48.9	22.6	33.9

*Rate per 1,000 women in race and age group.

--" in cell indicates count is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

Table B9.
Teens: Counts and Percents of Live Births
to Mothers Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester
by Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Age	Maternal Race					
	White		Black		All Races**	
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*
LT 15	21	60.0	110	48.5	133	50.2
15	95	67.9	234	56.7	332	59.2
16	328	71.5	468	56.7	804	61.8
17	646	76.3	795	63.4	1459	68.6
18	1144	78.9	1197	66.0	2373	71.8
19	1526	82.0	1561	70.1	3123	75.4
15-19	3739	78.6	4255	65.1	8091	70.7
10-19	3760	78.5	4365	64.6	8224	70.3
All ages	34273	89.7	19873	73.2	55365	82.9

*Percent of live births in age group and race group

***All Races" includes white, black and other

Table B10. Teens: Counts and Percents of Live Births
Under 2500 Grams by Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Age	Maternal Race					
	White		Black		All Races**	
	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*	Number	Percent*
LT 15	5	14.3	34	14.9	40	15.0
15	10	7.1	65	15.7	77	13.7
16	32	7.0	146	17.7	179	13.7
17	83	9.8	214	16.9	301	14.1
18	135	9.3	297	16.3	437	13.2
19	151	8.1	346	15.4	505	12.1
15-19	411	8.6	1068	16.3	1499	13.0
10-19	416	8.6	1102	16.2	1539	13.1
All ages	2653	6.9	3948	14.5	6714	10.0

* Percent of live births <2500 grams in age group and race group

***All Races" includes white, black and other

Table B11.
Counts and Percents of Live Births by Maternal Education and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Educational Level	Counts				Percent* of Live Births			
	White	Black	Other	All	White	Black	Other	All
Total	38292	27220	1450	66962	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
No high school	1337	991	133	2461	3.5	3.6	9.2	3.7
Some high school	5478	7775	257	13510	14.3	28.6	17.7	20.2
High school graduate	13964	10943	493	25400	36.5	40.2	34.0	37.9
Some college	8064	5246	228	13538	21.1	19.3	15.7	20.2
College graduate	9449	2265	339	12053	24.7	8.3	23.4	18.0

*May not sum to 100% due to rounding error.

Marital Status

The percent of unmarried women among all women giving birth is influenced by economic, peer, and self-perception issues that affect both the rate at which women marry and the number of married and unmarried women giving birth. Marital status can affect social, human, and financial resources available to children. It often is used as an indicator for important health and social outcomes.

There were 29,996 live births to unmarried mothers in Louisiana in 1999. This represents 44.7% of all 1999 live births in Louisiana. Very young mothers were the most likely to be unmarried, with 99.6% of all mothers under the age of 15 being unmarried. Black mothers were three times more likely to be unmarried than white mothers or mothers of other races. The greatest racial disparity in marital status was observed in mothers aged 30-34, where blacks were more than five times as likely as

Figure B9. Percents of Live Births to Unmarried Women by Maternal Age and Race Louisiana, 1999

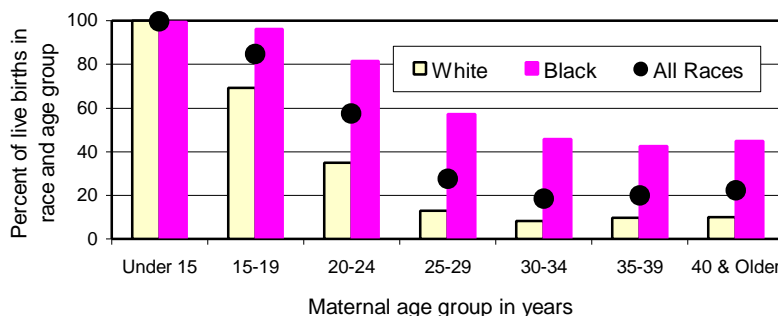


Table B12. Percents of Live Births to Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Age and Race Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Race	Maternal Age							All Ages
	Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	
All Races	99.6	84.8	57.5	27.4	18.5	19.8	22.1	44.7
White	100.0	69.2	35.0	13.1	8.3	9.8	10.2	24.9
Black	99.6	96.1	81.7	57.1	45.8	42.6	45.0	73.7
Other	--	82.6	41.2	14.4	8.6	15.1	--	26.3

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

whites to be unmarried (*Figure B9, Table B12*).

The annual proportion of live births that occur to unmarried mothers in Louisiana has doubled in the last two decades (*Table B13*). An increase in the proportion of unmarried mothers

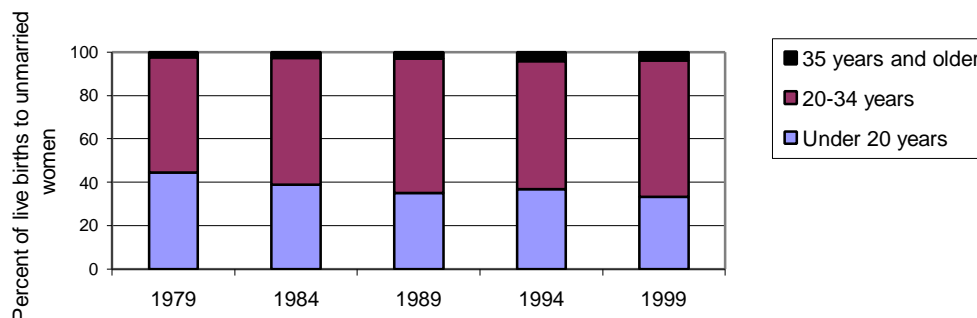
has occurred in every age group, but is most apparent among women aged (20-29 years), where the percentage of live births to unmarried women has almost tripled in the past 20 years.

Table B13. Percents* of Live Births to Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Age Louisiana and the United States, 1979-1999

Year	Louisiana: Maternal Age							United States: Maternal Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages
1979	49.6	22.3	10.8	9.6	13.4	16.4	22.9	28.4	10.5	4.3	3.4	4.4	5.9	10.2
1984	59.0	27.5	15.1	12.0	14.3	17.2	26.6	56.3	24.5	11.7	9.0	10.7	13.8	21.0
1989	72.3	41.5	21.9	16.5	16.8	18.8	35.3	67.2	35.1	17.1	12.6	13.3	15.9	27.1
1994	81.7	50.3	26.6	20.2	21.3	25.7	42.7	76.1	44.9	21.8	15.1	16.1	18.7	32.6
1999	85.1	57.5	27.4	18.5	19.8	22.1	44.8	79.0	48.5	22.9	14.0	14.4	13.4	33.0

*Percent of live births in the specified maternal age group

**Figure B10. Percent of Live Births to Unmarried Mothers by Maternal Age
Louisiana, 1979-1999**



Over the past 20 years, there has been an upward shift in the ages of unmarried mothers. In 1979 teenagers aged less than 20 years accounted for almost 45% of live births to unmarried mothers. This year they accounted for 33.4% of live births (*Figure B10*).

Although the actual number of births to women age 35 and older is small, the proportion of women in this age group who are unmarried when they give birth has increased steadily over the past 20 years. In 1979, 2.5% of births to unmarried mothers occurred in the 35 and older age group. By 1999, this figure had risen to 4.0%. At the national level a similar increase in the proportion of total live births that occur among single women has been seen.

Prenatal Care

Prenatal care is recognized as an important means of providing medical, nutritional, and educational interventions to reduce the risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes, such as infant mortality and low birthweight, and to identify women at high risk for these outcomes. Despite the importance of early prenatal care, one in every five babies born in Louisiana in 1999 were born to women who received no care in the first trimester of pregnancy. Beyond the positive effect on birth outcomes, prenatal care is a vital part of women's health care, as many women (particularly adolescents, minorities, and women of low socioeconomic status) first enter the health care system during pregnancy.⁶

In Louisiana, adequacy of prenatal care is measured by a **modified Kessner index**. This index defines

prenatal care as adequate if the first prenatal visit occurred in the first trimester of pregnancy, and if the total number of visits was appropriate to the gestational age of the baby at birth. However, because these measures assess neither the quality nor the content of prenatal care, they must be recognized only as estimates of the adequacy of the care.

Of the 66,059 Louisiana residents who had one or more live births, 77.5% received adequate prenatal care (*Table B14*). In both Louisiana and the United States, the percentage of live births to mothers entering prenatal care in the first trimester has increased steadily since the early 1990s (*Figure B11, Table B15*). In 1999 the percentage of live births entering prenatal care in the first trimester in Louisiana (83.9%) was close to the national percentage (83.2%) (*Table B15*).

Table B14.
Percents of Women Delivering Live Births and
Receiving Adequate Prenatal Care*
by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Race	Maternal Age						
	All Ages	LT 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older
All Races**	77.5	63.7	73.1	84.2	86.8	85.0	77.8
White	85.4	72.9	81.5	89.3	91.3	89.7	85.6
Black	66.4	57.3	64.4	73.9	76.1	74.3	63.6

*Adequate Prenatal Care as defined by a modified Kessner index

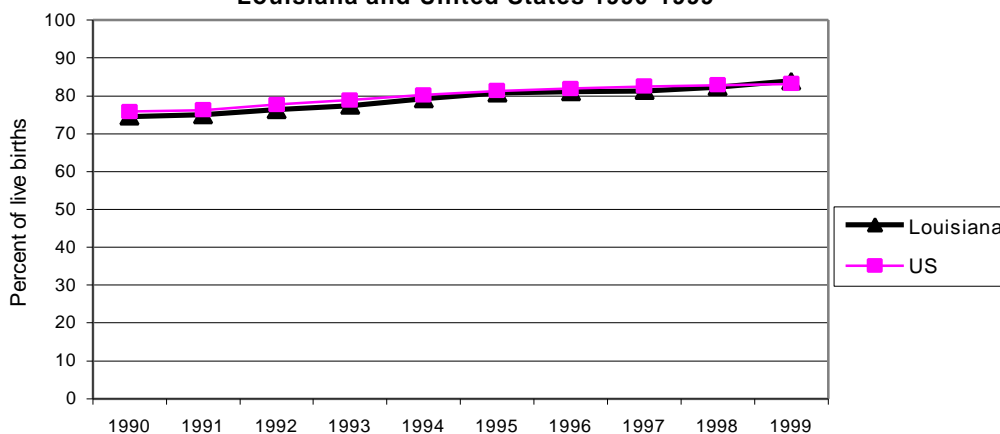
Care must begin in 1st Trimester

Required prenatal visits vary with gestational age

Gestation age: 17 weeks must have 2 or more prenatal visits, 18-21 weeks- 3 or more visits, 22-25 weeks-4 or more visits, 26-29 weeks-5 or more visits, 30-31 weeks- 6 or more visits, 32-33 weeks-7 or more visits, 34-35 weeks- 8 or more visits, 36 weeks or over-9 or more visits

***All Races" includes white, black and other

Figure B11. Percents of Live Births to Women Entering
Prenatal Care in the First Trimester of Pregnancy
Louisiana and United States 1990-1999



Racial differences with regard to timeliness of entry into prenatal care were observed in both Louisiana and the United States, but the racial differences were more pronounced in Louisiana than in the nation. In both Louisiana and the United States,

approximately 73% of live births among blacks entered prenatal care in the first trimester. Among whites, however, 89.7% of Louisiana live births entered prenatal care in the first trimester, versus 82.8% nationally (Table B16).

In Louisiana blacks were less likely than whites to enter into prenatal care in the first trimester (Figure B12, Table B17). Within all race groups, teens were less likely than women aged 20 and older to initiate prenatal care in the first trimester (Figure B12).

Table B15.
Percents of Live Births to Women Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester of Pregnancy
Louisiana and the United States, 1979-1999

Year	Louisiana	United States
1979	76.3	75.4
1984	77.7	76.5
1989	75.2	75.5
1990	74.6	75.8
1991	75.0	76.2
1992	76.3	77.7
1993	77.4	78.9
1994	79.2	80.2
1995	80.7	81.3
1996	81.1	81.9
1997	81.3	82.5
1998	82.3	82.8
1999	83.9	83.2

Sources: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics
National Center for Health Statistics

Table B16.
Percents of Live Births to Women
Entering Prenatal Care in the First Trimester of Pregnancy
by Maternal Race
Louisiana and United States, 1999

Maternal Race	Louisiana	United States
All Races*	82.9	82.8
White	89.7	84.8
Black	72.8	73.3

* "All Races" includes white, black and other
Sources: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics
National Center for Health Statistics

Figure B12. Percents of Live Births by Initiation of
Prenatal Care and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

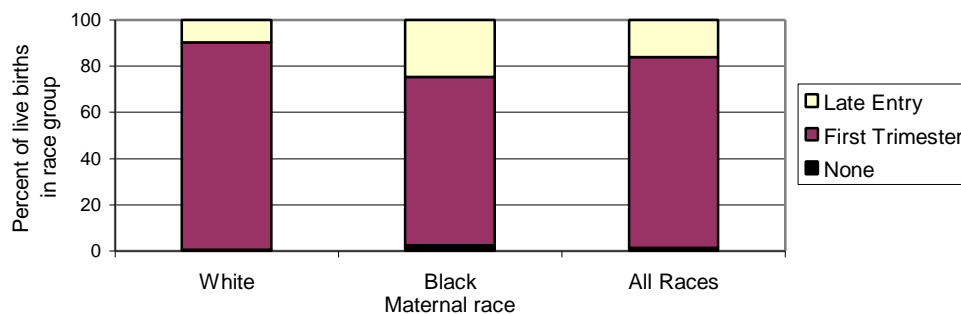


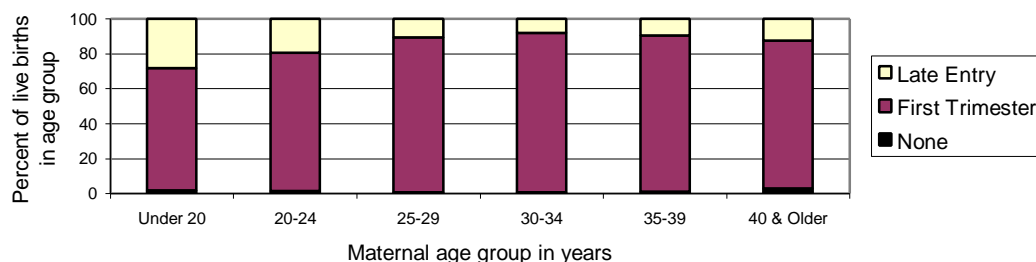
Table B17.
Percents* of Live Births by Initiation of Prenatal Care, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Age Group	Trimester of Prenatal Care Initiation											
	No Care			First Trimester			Second Trimester			Third Trimester		
	All Races**	White	Black	All Races**	White	Black	All Races**	White	Black	All Races**	White	Black
All Ages	1.3	0.6	2.4	82.9	89.7	72.8	13.4	8.4	20.3	2.3	1.2	4.4
Under 20	1.8	1.1	2.3	70.3	78.5	64.6	23.6	17.8	27.7	4.3	2.6	5.5
20-24	1.6	0.7	2.6	79.3	86.2	71.9	16.4	11.5	21.6	2.7	1.5	4.0
25-29	0.9	0.4	1.8	88.7	93.0	79.9	9.0	5.7	15.5	1.5	0.9	2.9
30-34	1.0	0.3	2.6	91.0	94.8	81.9	6.7	4.0	13.1	1.3	0.8	2.4
35-39	1.3	0.5	3.2	89.6	93.9	79.8	7.8	4.8	14.3	1.4	0.8	2.8
40 & Older	3.1	1.2	6.3	84.2	91.3	71.9	10.9	7.0	17.7	1.8	0.5	4.1

* Percent of live births in specified maternal age and race group

**"All Races" includes white, black and other

Figure B13. Percents of Live Births by Initiation of Prenatal Care and Maternal Age
Louisiana, 1999



Medical Risk Factors for the Pregnancy

The birth attendant records medical risk factors on the birth certificate by checking any of 16 listed risk factors, "other" or "none." More than one risk factor can be recorded on a birth certificate.

In Louisiana in 1999 there were 108 birth certificates for which medical risk factors for the pregnancy were unknown or unlisted.

Pregnancy-associated hypertension was the most frequently reported risk factor among Louisiana residents giving birth, at a rate of 36.1 per 1,000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the

calendar. Black mothers experienced pregnancy-associated hypertension at a higher rate than white mothers did. The rate among black mothers was 37.1 occurrences per 1,000 black mothers, versus the rate of 35.8 occurrences per 1,000 white mothers.

The second most frequently reported medical risk factor was anemia, at a rate of 25.1 occurrences per 1,000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the calendar year. Black mothers experienced anemia at a rate of 32.0 occurrences per 1,000 black mothers, which was more than the white maternal

rate of 20.3 occurrences per 1,000 white mothers.

The third most frequently reported medical risk factor was diabetes, at a rate of 15.5 occurrences per 1,000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the calendar year. This includes juvenile onset, adult onset, and gestational diabetes during pregnancy. White mothers experienced diabetes at a higher rate (17.4 occurrences per 1,000 white mothers) than black mothers (12.7 occurrences per 1,000 black mothers).

Medical risk factors reported on the birth certificate differed somewhat by age, with very young mothers and older mothers reporting the highest rates of medical risks.

Among teenage mothers the most frequently reported medical risk factors were: Pregnancy-associated hypertension, with 38.7 occurrences per 1,000 mothers; Anemia at a rate of 28.3 occurrences per 1,000 mothers and; Hydramnios/Oligohydramnios, with 10.0 occurrences per 1,000 mothers.

Among mothers 35 years and older, the most frequently reported medical risk factors were: Pregnancy-associated

hypertension, with 42.6 occurrences per 1,000 mothers, Diabetes, at a rate of 33.1 occurrences per 1,000 mothers; and Anemia, with 20.4 occurrences per 1,000 mothers year (*Table B18 and Table B19*).

Tobacco and Alcohol Use During Pregnancy

Usage of tobacco and alcohol during pregnancy, as reported by the mother at the time of birth, is recorded on the birth certificate. Because this information depends on the mother's recall, it is subject to inaccuracy.

In 1999, 10.1% of mothers who provided information reported using tobacco during pregnancy, and 0.6% reported using alcohol during pregnancy. Among whites, 13.7% reported using tobacco, and 0.4% reported using alcohol. Among blacks, tobacco and alcohol use was reported to be 5.2% and 0.8%, respectively.

Table B18.
Rates* of Medical Risk Factor of the Pregnancy by Maternal Race or Age
Louisiana, 1999

Medical Risk Factor of the Pregnancy	All Ages			All Races**	
	All Races**	White	Black	Under 20 Years	35 Years & older
No medical risk factor noted	780.9	807.0	739.4	776.4	752.7
Hypertension, pregnancy associated	36.1	35.8	37.1	38.7	42.6
Anemia (HCT <30 \ HGB <10)	25.1	20.3	32.0	28.3	20.4
Diabetes	15.5	17.4	12.7	4.6	33.1
Hydramnios/Oligohydramnios	8.2	6.9	10.0	10.0	10.9
Previous preterm or small for gestational age infant	7.0	6.6	7.6	4.0	8.5
Hypertension, chronic	6.7	4.5	9.9	2.9	19.6
Previous infant >=4000 Grams	5.3	7.1	2.9	--	8.7
Eclampsia	3.6	2.8	4.9	5.5	--
Genital herpes	5.1	5.2	5.0	2.7	5.0
Uterine bleeding	3.5	3.7	3.2	2.2	5.5
Rh sensitization	6.3	9.0	2.6	5.1	5.2
Incompetent cervix	1.7	1.3	2.2	--	--
Cardiac disease	1.8	1.9	1.6	--	--
Renal disease	1.4	1.2	1.7	--	--
Acute or chronic lung disease	0.8	0.6	1.1	--	--
Hemoglobinopathy	--	--	--	--	--

*Rate per 1000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the calendar year

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

**"All Races" includes white, black and other

Table B19.
Counts* of Medical Risk Factor for the Pregnancy by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Medical Risk Factor	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group													
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 +	Unk.
No medical risk factor noted	All	51504	175	410	968	1628	2617	3237	8860	16223	13130	8768	3678	644	24	*
	White	30455	24	105	372	675	1184	1518	3854	8535	8783	6244	2566	431	18	-
	Black	19849	150	298	584	928	1396	1676	4882	7422	3980	2218	1003	187	5	*
	Other	1200	*	7	12	25	37	43	124	266	367	306	109	26	*	-
Anemia (HCT<30/HGB <10)	All	1658	6	16	33	61	91	122	323	623	378	210	103	14	*	-
	White	766	*	5	9	25	34	30	103	258	214	126	56	8	-	-
	Black	858	*	11	23	35	55	90	214	357	156	76	44	6	*	-
	Other	34	*	-	*	*	*	*	6	8	8	8	*	-	-	-
Cardiac disease	All	116	*	-	*	6	*	*	15	37	35	16	7	*	*	-
	White	71	*	-	*	*	-	*	6	19	25	11	6	*	-	-
	Black	44	-	-	*	*	*	*	9	17	10	5	*	*	*	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute or chronic lung disease	All	53	*	*	-	*	*	*	11	17	14	7	*	*	-	-
	White	23	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	6	7	*	-	*	-	-
	Black	29	*	*	-	*	*	*	7	10	7	*	*	-	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	All	1020	*	*	*	6	16	25	53	201	304	270	155	36	-	-
	White	656	*	*	*	*	9	10	26	112	207	194	95	21	-	-
	Black	340	-	*	*	*	7	14	26	85	93	65	57	14	-	-
	Other	24	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	11	*	*	*	-	-
Genital herpes	All	338	*	-	7	*	*	15	30	106	105	67	24	5	-	-
	White	197	-	-	*	-	*	7	10	50	68	47	17	5	-	-
	Black	134	*	-	6	*	*	8	20	53	34	20	6	-	-	-
	Other	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	*	-	-	-
Hydramnios/Oligohydramnios	All	540	-	8	18	25	28	37	116	179	110	72	51	10	*	-
	White	261	-	*	7	8	16	16	49	73	63	46	25	*	*	-
	Black	268	-	6	11	17	12	21	67	102	44	23	25	6	*	-
	Other	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	-	-	-
Hemoglobinopathy	All	18	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	5	*	*	*	*	-	-
	White	5	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	*	-	-	-	-
	Black	13	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertension, chronic	All	440	-	-	*	5	10	17	34	67	123	103	86	24	*	-
	White	169	-	-	*	*	*	6	11	27	59	35	30	5	*	-
	Black	267	-	-	*	*	7	11	23	38	63	68	55	19	*	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	*	-	-	-
Hypertension, pregnancy associated	All	2380	10	21	59	83	115	162	440	708	598	378	199	46	*	-
	White	1351	-	*	16	30	53	72	175	395	391	244	123	23	-	-
	Black	997	10	16	43	53	61	86	259	306	197	130	74	20	*	-
	Other	32	-	*	-	-	*	*	6	7	10	*	*	*	-	-
Eclampsia	All	238	*	*	8	12	19	18	61	60	56	39	16	*	-	-
	White	104	-	*	*	*	*	8	20	23	27	21	10	*	-	-
	Black	131	*	3	6	8	13	9	39	36	29	18	6	-	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Incompetent cervix	All	114	*	-	-	-	*	*	5	33	28	30	16	*	-	-
	White	48	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	13	12	15	6	-	-	-
	Black	60	*	-	-	-	*	*	*	18	13	14	10	*	-	-
	Other	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	-	-

*This is not an unduplicated count because more than one medical risk factor was noted on some birth certificates. 66059 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year.

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Table B19 continues on next page.

Table B19/Ballanger 11 (continued)
Counts* of Medical Risk Factor for the Pregnancy by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 2000

Medical Risk Factor	Race	Total	Maternal Age Group														
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 +	Unk.	
Previous infant 4000+ grams	All	349	-	-	-	-	*	*	8	72	121	98	43	7	-	-	
	White	268	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	48	95	80	34	7	-	-	
	Black	79	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	24	26	16	9	-	-	-	
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	
Previous preterm or small for gestational age infant	All	461	*	-	6	5	16	18	45	147	140	79	42	7	-	-	
	White	248	-	-	*	-	5	7	13	65	91	53	24	*	-	-	
	Black	205	*	-	5	5	11	11	32	82	47	22	17	*	-	-	
	Other	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	-	-	
Renal Disease	All	92	*	-	5	*	*	*	14	40	26	7	*	-	-	-	
	White	44	-	-	*	-	*	*	7	15	17	*	*	-	-	-	
	Black	46	*	-	*	*	*	*	7	24	9	*	*	-	-	-	
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	
Rh Sensitization	All	413	-	-	7	5	24	23	59	137	111	76	29	*	-	-	
	White	341	-	-	*	*	19	19	45	108	93	70	24	*	-	-	
	Black	70	-	-	*	*	5	*	14	29	17	5	5	-	-	-	
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	
Uterine bleeding	All	231	*	-	*	*	8	12	24	61	65	47	24	8	-	-	
	White	141	-	-	-	-	*	9	10	38	44	29	16	*	-	-	
	Black	85	*	-	*	*	7	<5	14	23	19	16	8	*	-	-	
	Other	5	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	
Other	All	8439	72	112	216	331	401	526	1586	2587	1995	1392	662	138	7	-	
	White	3757	8	25	49	105	136	183	498	940	1063	824	361	60	*	-	
	Black	4541	62	87	164	225	263	338	1077	1616	888	540	281	73	*	-	
	Other	141	*	-	*	*	*	5	11	31	44	28	20	5	-	-	
Unknown medical risk factor	All	108	-	-	*	*	*	*	10	26	25	13	18	8	*	5	
	White	72	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	14	15	12	15	6	*	*	
	Black	34	-	-	*	*	*	*	6	11	9	*	*	*	-	*	
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	

*This is not an unduplicated count because more than one medical risk factor was noted on some birth certificates. 66852 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year.

** "in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.

- zero counts observed

Table B20.
Counts of Mothers by Use of Tobacco and Alcohol during Pregnancy, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Substance Usage	Race	Total	Maternal Age													
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 +	Unk.
No tobacco use	All	59268	260	527	1178	1880	2911	3635	10131	18287	15221	10181	4365	788	33	*
	White	32538	31	114	361	639	1141	1448	3703	8596	9732	7043	2917	495	21	-
	Black	25364	226	406	802	1216	1731	2138	6293	9395	5072	2792	1315	258	11	*
	Other	1366	*	7	15	25	39	49	135	296	417	346	133	35	*	-
Tobacco use	All	6659	5	33	117	235	372	478	1235	2359	1469	1005	485	98	*	-
	White	5185	*	25	98	198	304	402	1027	1868	1154	735	340	55	*	-
	Black	1402	*	7	18	35	64	71	195	465	298	258	141	43	*	-
	Other	72	-	*	*	*	*	5	13	26	17	12	*	-	-	-
Unknown tobacco use	All	132	-	*	*	*	*	5	16	31	28	21	16	12	*	5
	White	86	-	*	*	*	*	*	8	19	16	16	12	9	*	*
	Black	44	-	-	*	*	*	*	8	11	11	5	*	*	-	*
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-
No alcohol use	All	65538	263	561	1289	2108	3276	4100	11334	20563	16605	11081	4784	870	36	*
	White	37559	35	140	455	834	1440	1844	4713	10425	10855	7736	3228	544	23	-
	Black	26545	225	413	818	1247	1793	2203	6474	9817	5316	2988	1419	292	12	*
	Other	1434	*	8	16	27	43	53	147	321	434	357	137	34	*	-
Alcohol use	All	386	*	-	6	7	6	13	32	88	80	103	64	17	-	-
	White	164	-	-	*	*	5	6	18	42	27	42	28	7	-	-
	Black	220	*	-	*	*	*	6	13	45	53	61	36	10	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown alcohol use	All	135	-	-	*	*	*	5	16	26	33	23	18	11	*	5
	White	86	-	-	*	*	*	*	7	16	20	16	13	8	*	*
	Black	45	-	-	*	*	*	*	9	9	12	6	5	*	-	*
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	*	-	-

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

NEWBORN PROFILE

Sex

Louisiana's **male/female birth ratio** was 1.048, which means 1,048 males were born for every 1,000 females. By race, the male/female ratios were 1.051 for whites, 1.044 for blacks, and 1.034 for other races (*Table B21*).

Birthweight

A **low birthweight** infant is defined as an infant weighing less than 2500 grams (5 pounds, 8 ounces) at birth.

Low birthweight is a major cause of infant mortality, with more than three-quarters of infant deaths caused by babies born too small or too early.⁷ Low birthweight has been linked to several preventable factors, including lack of prenatal care, maternal smoking, use of alcohol and other drugs, and pregnancy before the age of 18 years. Other risk factors for low birthweight include low

socioeconomic level, low maternal weight gain, low pregnancy weight, first births, female sex, short maternal stature, prior low birthweight births, maternal illnesses, fetal infections, and a variety of metabolic and genetic disorders. Low birthweight infants who survive are more likely than normal weight infants to have brain damage, lung and liver disease, subnormal growth, developmental problems, and other adverse health conditions. The effects of low birthweight follow these infants throughout life, through a greater likelihood of learning disorders, attention disorders, and developmental impairments.⁸ In the long run, higher proportions of low birthweight infants are enrolled in special education classes relative to their normal birthweight counterparts.⁹

Table B21.
Counts of Live Births by
Infant Sex and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Infant Sex	Maternal Race			
	White	Black	Other	Total
Male	19656	13907	724	34297
Female	18694	13327	700	32737
Ratio (M:F)	1.051	1.044	1.034	1.048

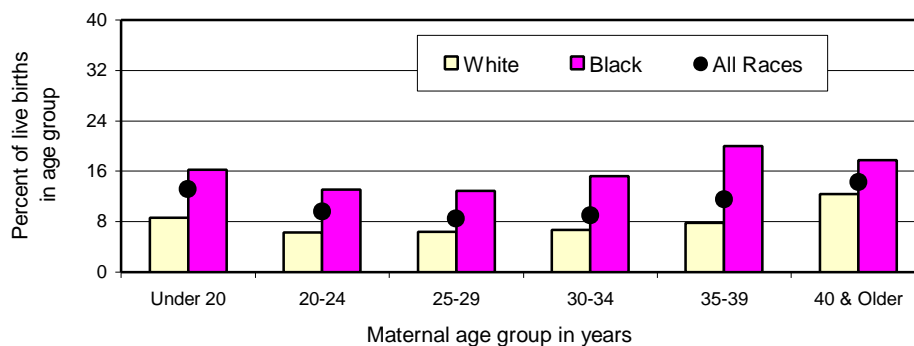
In 1999, 6,714 (10.0% of total live births) of the infants born to Louisiana residents weighed less than 2500 grams. In the United States 7.6% were low birthweight (*Table B22*). Both Louisiana and the nation saw an increase in the percentage of infants born with low birthweight in the early and mid 1990s, and a leveling off of these percentages in the late 1990s (*Table B22*).

Table B22.
Percent of Live Births Less Than 2500 Grams
Louisiana and United States 1990-1999

Year	Louisiana	United States
1990	8.8	7.0
1991	9.0	7.1
1992	9.4	7.1
1993	9.4	7.2
1994	9.6	7.3
1995	9.7	7.3
1996	9.9	7.4
1997	10.2	7.5
1998	10.1	7.6
1999	10.0	7.6

Sources: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics
National Center for Health Statistics

**Figure B14. Percents of Live Births
Less Than 2500 Grams by Maternal Age
Louisiana, 1999**



**Table B23.
Percents* of Live Births Less Than 2500 Grams
by Maternal Race
Louisiana and United States, 1999**

Location	Maternal Race		
	All Races**	White	Black
Louisiana	10.0	6.9	14.5
United States	7.6	6.6	13.1

* Percent of live births in specified race group.

** "All races" includes white, black and other

Source: Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics
National Center for Health Statistics

**Table B24.
Percents* of Live Births Less than 2500 Grams by Maternal Age
Louisiana, 1999**

Race	Maternal Age						All Ages
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	
All Races**	13.1	9.6	8.5	8.9	11.5	14.2	10.0
White	8.6	6.3	6.4	6.7	7.8	12.4	6.9
Black	16.2	13.1	12.9	15.2	20.0	17.8	14.5

* Percent of live births in specified race group.

** "All races" includes white, black and other

Black mothers gave birth to infants of low birthweight more than twice as frequently as white mothers did, at 14.5% of all live births among black women compared with 6.9% of live births among white women. This relationship between low birthweight and race also was evident at the national level (*Table B23*). A higher prevalence of low birthweight births among blacks was apparent in all age groups in Louisiana (*Figure B14, Table B24*).

Among the maternal age groups, mothers aged 40 and older had the highest percentage of low birthweight babies at 14.2%. However, the total number of live births among women in this age category was smaller than in other age groups. Women under 20 year of age had the second highest

percentage of low birthweight babies (13.1% of live births) (*Figure B14, Table B24*).

The prevalence of low birthweight births to mothers who had no prenatal care was 28.3%, more than double that of births to mother with prenatal care beginning in the first, second or third trimester. Among mothers who received prenatal care, mothers who entered prenatal care in the second or third trimester had higher percentages of low birthweights than the mothers who entered prenatal care in the first trimester (*Figure B15*).

Infants weighing less than 1500 grams at birth (3 lbs. 5 oz.) are considered to be **very low birthweight** and are at much greater risk of mortality and long-term

disability than higher weight infants. Although recent medical advances have greatly reduced the risk of death for smaller infants, the risk of early death for a very low birthweight infant is about 65 times that of infants who weigh at least 1500 grams.¹⁰

Of all births to Louisiana residents in 1999, 2.4% of infants weighed less than 1500 grams as compared with 1.5% of infants born nationwide. As with infants weighing less than 2500 grams, the frequency of very low birthweight births differed by race. Black mothers gave birth to very low birthweight infants nearly three times as frequently as white mothers, at 3.4% compared with 1.2% of live births (*Table B25*).

Figure B15. Percents of Live Births Less Than 2500 Grams by Trimester of Entry into Prenatal Care Louisiana, 1999

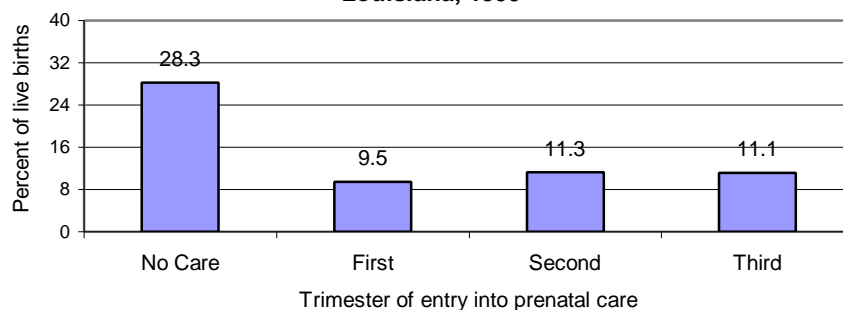


Table B25. Percents* of Live births Less than 1500 Grams by Maternal Age Louisiana, 1999

Race	Maternal Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & Older	All Ages
All Races**	2.4	2.1	1.6	2.2	2.5	2.6	2.1
White	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.6	2.8	1.2
Black	3.3	3.2	3.0	4.6	4.7	2.2	3.4

*Percents of live births in specified maternal age and race group

***All races* includes white, black and other

Table B26.
Counts of Live Births by Live Birth Order and Birthweight
Louisiana, 1999

Birth Order	Total	Birthweight in Grams								Weight not stated	Under 2500	Percent of Total Live Births
		999 and less	1000-1999	2000-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-3999	4000-4499	4500 and Over			
ALL	67034	761	1934	4019	13318	25758	16529	4047	660	8	6714	10.02
1	27040	323	751	1661	5634	10601	6409	1442	215	*	2735	10.11
2	21734	231	543	1111	4017	8480	5696	1421	233	*	1885	8.67
3	11242	121	325	653	2173	4244	2828	770	128	-	1099	9.78
4	4254	40	156	329	917	1517	985	258	52	-	525	12.34
5	1510	21	80	140	316	500	341	97	15	-	241	15.96
6	647	11	41	57	132	232	145	24	5	-	109	16.85
7	284	6	17	33	61	91	60	10	6	-	56	19.72
8	121	*	10	17	22	34	25	11	*	-	28	23.14
9	63	*	6	10	13	16	9	8	-	-	17	26.98
10	31	*	*	*	6	8	8	*	*	-	6	19.35
11	21	-	-	*	8	*	*	*	*	-	*	9.52
12	10	-	-	-	*	5	*	-	*	-	-	0
13	7	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	*	-	-	0
14	*	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	100
15	*	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	0
16 +	*	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	0
Unk.	67	*	*	*	15	22	15	*	-	*	10	14.93

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Table B27.
Counts and Percents* of Live Births by Infant Birthweight, Infant Sex, and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Weight in Grams	All Races		White				Black				Other			
			Male		Female		Male		Female		Male		Female	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Under 500	196	0.29	24	0.12	15	0.08	72	0.52	84	0.63	*	0.14	-	-
500-749	269	0.40	30	0.15	37	0.20	94	0.68	100	0.75	*	0.54	*	0.56
750-999	296	0.44	49	0.25	57	0.30	74	0.53	113	0.85	*	0.27	*	0.14
1000-1499	637	0.95	118	0.60	118	0.63	200	1.44	196	1.47	*	0.41	*	0.28
1500-1999	1297	1.93	237	1.21	272	1.46	345	2.48	423	3.17	8	1.09	12	1.68
2000-2499	4019	6.00	753	3.83	943	5.04	1012	7.28	1235	9.27	31	4.22	45	6.28
2500-2999	13318	19.87	2839	14.44	3504	18.74	3048	21.92	3645	27.35	132	17.98	150	20.95
3000-3499	25758	38.43	7178	36.52	7655	40.95	5335	38.36	4970	37.29	306	41.69	314	43.85
3500-3999	16529	24.66	6194	31.51	4832	25.85	2994	21.53	2150	16.13	203	27.66	156	21.79
4000-4499	4047	6.04	1910	9.72	1102	5.89	623	4.48	349	2.62	38	5.18	25	3.49
4500 +	660	0.98	322	1.64	158	0.85	107	0.77	60	0.45	6	0.82	7	0.98
Unk.	8	0.01	2	0.01	*	0.01	3	0.02	*	0.02	-	-	-	-
Total	67034	100.00	19656	100.00	18694	100.00	13907	100.00	13327	100.00	734	100.00	716	100.00

*Percents may not add to 100 due rounding.

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Table B28.
Counts of Live Births by Birthweight, Maternal Age, and Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Age and Race	Total	Birthweight in Grams											Not stated
		499 and less	500-749	750-999	1000-1499	1500-1999	2000-2499	2500-2999	3000-3499	3500-3999	4000-4499	4500 and over	
All Races*	67034	196	269	296	637	1297	4019	13318	25758	16529	4047	660	8
Under 15	266	*	-	-	6	9	24	70	104	44	7	*	-
15-19	11492	46	52	59	123	287	932	2781	4518	2234	411	47	*
20-24	20922	66	86	89	194	362	1207	4466	8341	4883	1067	160	*
25-29	16987	38	51	67	124	286	875	2998	6530	4609	1205	202	*
30-34	11438	25	52	52	117	203	574	1962	4228	3172	901	152	-
35-39	4967	18	22	27	57	123	323	873	1726	1331	385	81	*
40-44	916	*	5	*	15	27	80	155	297	248	68	17	-
45 and over	39	-	-	-	*	-	*	12	12	7	*	-	-
Not Stated	7	-	*	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	-	-	*
White	38350	39	67	106	236	509	1696	6343	14833	11026	3012	480	*
Under 15	35	-	-	-	*	-	*	*	13	8	5	*	-
15-19	4776	7	7	12	31	70	284	970	1928	1195	248	23	*
20-24	10577	10	17	26	55	119	438	1878	4273	2934	707	120	-
25-29	11058	6	15	30	60	138	456	1703	4274	3303	926	146	*
30-34	7964	*	16	25	56	111	318	1210	2954	2399	758	113	-
35-39	3338	10	7	13	22	56	154	498	1199	1007	310	62	-
40-44	573	*	*	-	11	15	38	76	184	173	55	15	-
45 and over	26	-	-	-	-	-	*	5	8	6	*	-	-
Not Stated	*	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	*
Black	27234	156	194	187	396	768	2247	6693	10305	5144	972	167	5
Under 15	228	*	-	-	*	9	20	66	90	36	*	-	-
15-19	6567	39	45	45	92	212	635	1773	2536	1015	152	22	*
20-24	10020	56	65	62	139	239	751	2528	3926	1871	345	37	*
25-29	5490	32	33	37	63	140	401	1206	2070	1190	263	54	*
30-34	3115	21	35	27	60	89	241	695	1110	670	132	35	-
35-39	1490	7	15	14	34	67	161	344	467	297	66	17	*
40-44	308	-	*	*	*	12	38	74	100	64	12	*	-
45 and over	12	-	-	-	*	-	-	6	*	*	-	-	-
Not Stated	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	*

*"All races" includes white, black and other

"*" in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Gestational Age

Gestational age is the interval between the first day of the mother's last normal menstrual period and the date of birth. The individual attending the birth records gestational age on the Louisiana birth certificate. Attendants use several different methods to estimate gestational age, including computing the interval between the first day of the mother's last normal menstrual period (LMP) and the date of birth, or determining a clinical estimate based on examination of the newborn. Standardized methods of measurement for determination of gestational age are difficult, especially among at-risk pregnancies in which minimal or no

prenatal ascertainment have been made.

Louisiana birth certificates record both the "Date Last Normal Menses Began" and the "Clinical Estimate of Gestation". LMP is subject to error from imperfect maternal recall or misidentification of the last normal menstrual period because of post-conception bleeding, delayed ovulation, or intervening early miscarriage. Therefore, the attendant's clinical estimate of gestation is used to determine gestational age in this report.

A birth is considered **preterm** if the gestational age at delivery is less than 37 weeks. There were 136 infants for

whom no estimate of gestational age was recorded.

Of all live births to Louisiana residents with information about gestational age, 11.8% were estimated to be preterm (*Table B29*). Black mothers delivered preterm infants almost twice as frequently as white mothers (15.6% versus 9.2% of live births, respectively). Younger mothers (under 20) and older mothers (40 and older) delivered preterm infants more frequently than any other age groups (13.5% and 14.8% of live births, respectively).

Table B29.
Counts and Percents of Pre-Term Live Births (Less Than 37 Weeks) by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Race	Maternal Age Group													
	Under 20		20-24		25-29		30-34		35-39		40 and older		All Ages	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All Races*	1590	13.5	2406	11.5	1790	10.6	1292	11.3	660	13.3	139	14.8	7878	11.8
White	496	10.3	917	8.7	963	8.7	738	9.3	333	10.0	74	12.6	3522	9.2
Black	1070	15.8	1462	14.6	794	14.5	535	17.2	321	21.6	61	19.2	4243	15.6

*"All races" includes white, black and other

Multiple Births

Of all live births to Louisiana residents, 65,074 (97.1%) were part of a single delivery. 1,845 live births (2.8%) were part of a twin delivery, 107 (0.2%) were part of a triplet delivery, 8 live births were part of a quadruplet delivery.

Apgar Score

The **Apgar score** is a composite measure of the physical health of an infant shortly after birth. It is assessed at one and five minutes after birth, and is used to predict the infant's chances of survival.

Five characteristics of the baby that are easily identifiable – heart rate, respiratory effort, muscle tone, reflex

irritability, and color – are assessed on a scale of 0 to 2, with 2 being optimum.

The Apgar score is the sum of these scores, with a score of 7 or higher indicating that the infant is in good physical condition, and a score of 10 being perfect.

Table B30.
Counts and Percents of Births with
Below Normal Five Minute Apgar Scores by Maternal Race
Louisiana, 1999

Count/Percent	Maternal Race			
	White	Black	Other	All Races*
Number	336	666	12	1014
Percent	0.9	2.5	0.8	1.5

**All races* includes white, black and other

Table B31.
Counts and Percents of Births with Below Normal Five Minute Apgar Scores by Maternal Age
Louisiana, 1999

Count/Percent	Maternal Age						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & older	All Ages
Number	236	336	190	145	87	20	1014
Percent	2.0%	1.6%	1.1%	1.3%	1.8%	2.1%	1.5%

As the five-minute score is generally considered to be a better predictor of survival, it is the score that is reported here. In 1999, 0.4% (243) of birth certificates in Louisiana did not have a recorded Apgar score. Of all live births with a known Apgar score, 98.4% (65,777) of the infants had an Apgar score of at least 7 and 1.5% (1,014) of infants had low (0-6) Apgar scores.

Age and racial breakdowns were consistent with low birthweight percentages; infants born to very young mothers, older mothers, and black mothers received the highest percentages of below normal scores (*Table B30 and Table B31*).

Abnormal Conditions of the Newborn

Abnormal conditions of the newborn are recorded on the birth certificate by checking any of 8 listed conditions, none, or other. More than one condition

can be checked on a birth certificate.

The two most commonly reported abnormal newborn conditions were assisted ventilation less than 30 minutes (at a rate of 10.0 per 1,000 live births) and assisted ventilation 30 minutes or more (at a rate of 6.7 per 1,000 live births). The third most commonly reported abnormal condition was hyaline membrane disease/ respiratory distress syndrome, at a rate of 3.8 per 1,000 live births (*Table B32*).

Congenital Anomalies

Congenital anomalies are recorded on the birth certificate by checking any of 21 listed anomalies, none, or other. More than one anomaly can be checked on a birth certificate. Because these events occur so infrequently, rates have been calculated for categories of anomalies.

In 1999 there were 682 birth certificates with at least one congenital

anomaly reported (*Table B33*). A total of 742 congenital anomalies were reported.

The most commonly reported category of congenital anomalies was musculoskeletal/ integumental anomalies at a rate of 22.7 per 10,000 live births. This includes cleft lip/palate, polydactyly/syndactyly/adactyly, clubfoot, and diaphragmatic hernia, as well as other musculoskeletal/ integumental anomalies.

The second most commonly reported category was circulatory/respiratory anomalies, which includes heart malformations, at a rate of 14.6 per 10,000 live births.

The third most commonly reported category was central nervous system anomalies at a rate of 6.9 per 10,000 live births. This category includes anencephalus, spina bifida/ meningocele, hydrocephalus, and microcephalus, as well as other central nervous system anomalies.

Table B32.
Counts* of Abnormal Conditions of the Newborn by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

CONDITION	Race	Total	Maternal Age													Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
None	All	63176	255	518	1217	2009	3067	3883	10694	19628	16137	10870	4705	852	33	*
	White	36293	34	128	425	789	1327	1748	4417	9957	10564	7592	3173	535	21	-
	Black	25514	219	383	776	1193	1698	2085	6135	9369	5157	2939	1397	284	12	*
	Other	1369	*	7	16	27	42	50	142	302	416	339	135	33	-	-
Anemia (HCT < 39/HGB < 13)	All	55	*	*	*	*	*	*	14	13	12	9	*	5	-	-
	White	19	-	*	-	*	*	-	*	*	6	*	-	5	-	-
	Black	34	-	*	*	*	*	*	11	11	5	6	*	-	-	-
	Other	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-
Birth injury	All	56	-	*	*	*	*	5	11	19	12	10	*	-	-	-
	White	30	-	-	*	-	*	*	*	9	10	7	-	-	-	-
	Black	25	-	*	-	*	*	*	7	10	*	*	*	-	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-
Fetal alcohol syndrome	All	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-
	White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Black	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hyaline membrane disease/ Respiratory distress syndrome	All	252	*	*	8	8	17	10	47	86	51	45	19	*	-	-
	White	154	-	*	5	*	9	7	26	45	39	29	13	*	-	-
	Black	91	*	*	*	*	8	*	20	38	10	16	5	*	-	-
	Other	7	-	-	-	*	-	-	*	*	*	-	*	-	-	-
Meconium aspiration syndrome	All	109	*	*	*	*	13	6	23	38	26	15	5	*	-	-
	White	32	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	8	8	10	*	-	-	-
	Black	77	*	*	2	*	10	5	19	30	18	5	*	*	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assisted Ventilation less than 30 minutes	All	673	*	11	16	29	55	38	149	234	146	90	42	9	-	-
	White	443	-	7	7	18	31	27	90	150	103	62	33	5	-	-
	Black	213	*	*	9	11	24	11	59	79	37	23	9	*	-	-
	Other	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	5	-	*	-	-
Assisted Ventilation 30 minutes or more	All	449	*	6	16	17	22	23	84	159	103	64	29	9	-	-
	White	236	-	*	8	8	12	8	37	76	64	36	17	6	-	-
	Black	205	-	5	8	9	10	14	46	82	36	26	12	*	-	-
	Other	8	*	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	-	-	-	-
Seizures	All	42	-	*	*	*	*	-	7	13	11	8	*	-	-	-
	White	27	-	*	*	*	*	-	6	*	10	6	*	-	-	-
	Black	14	-	-	-	*	-	-	*	9	*	*	*	-	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	All	2657	7	32	57	93	178	221	581	903	574	381	173	35	*	-
	White	1312	*	8	24	37	89	87	245	402	303	236	103	20	*	-
	Black	1289	5	23	33	55	88	131	330	486	257	130	67	14	-	-
	Other	56	*	*	-	*	*	*	6	15	14	15	*	*	*	-
Unknown	All	123	-	-	*	*	*	6	12	24	24	22	20	13	*	5
	White	86	-	-	-	-	*	*	5	14	16	19	16	10	*	*
	Black	35	-	-	*	*	*	*	7	9	7	*	*	*	-	*
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-

*This is not an unduplicated count. More than one condition was noted on some birth certificates.

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Table B33.
Counts* of Congenital Anomalies by Type of Anomaly and Maternal Age
Louisiana, 1999

Congenital Anomaly	Total	Maternal Age								Unk.
		Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
Total	742	10	148	259	166	107	39	11	*	-
Anencephalus	*	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spina bifida/Meningocele	20	-	*	7	*	7	*	-	-	-
Hydrocephalus	11	*	*	5	*	*	-	-	-	-
Microcephalus	*	-	*	*	-	-	*	-	-	-
Other central nervous system anomalies	8	*	*	*	*	*	-	-	-	-
Heart malformations	24	-	*	6	7	*	*	*	-	-
Other Circulatory/Respiratory anomalies	74	-	20	28	16	8	*	*	-	-
Rectal atresia/Stenosis	*	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tracheo esophageal fistula/Esophageal atresia	8	*	*	*	-	*	-	-	-	-
Omphalocele/Gastroschisis	5	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other gastrointestinal anomalies	5	-	*	*	*	*	-	-	-	-
Malformed genitalia	13	-	*	*	*	*	-	*	-	-
Renal agenesis	*	-	*	*	-	*	-	-	-	-
Other urogenital anomalies	16	-	5	*	5	*	-	-	-	-
Cleft lip/Palate	38	*	5	9	11	*	6	*	-	-
Polydactyly/Syndactyly/Adactyly	55	*	19	19	12	*	-	-	-	-
Club foot	24	-	*	6	5	8	*	-	-	-
Diaphragmatic hernia	8	-	*	5	*	-	*	-	-	-
Other musculoskeletal/integumental anomalies	27	*	7	8	6	*	*	-	-	-
Down's syndrome	20	-	*	*	*	5	*	5	-	-
Other chromosomal anomalies	9	-	*	*	-	*	*	*	-	-
Other congenital anomalies	364	*	65	142	88	46	17	*	*	-

*This is not an unduplicated count. More than one congenital anomaly was noted on some birth certificates. 682 infants had at least one congenital anomaly.

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

DELIVERY CHARACTERISTICS: MEDICAL PROCEDURES, COMPLICATIONS, AND FACILITIES

Obstetric Procedures

The attendant at birth records obstetric procedures on the birth certificate by checking any of 6 procedures performed, none, or other. More than one procedure can be checked on a birth certificate.

The most frequently performed obstetric procedure was electronic fetal monitoring, at a rate of 834.0 per 1,000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the calendar year. Electronic fetal monitoring was performed less often in black mothers than in white mothers, at a rate of 792.1 per 1,000

black mothers versus 865.0 per 1,000 white mothers, respectively.

The second most frequently performed procedure was ultrasound, at a rate of 624.9 per 1,000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the calendar year. Ultrasound was performed less often in black mothers than in white mothers, at a rate of 572.1 per 1,000 black mothers versus 661.0 per 1,000 white mothers, respectively. Among the 66,059 women who had 1 or more live births, no associated obstetric procedures were performed in 4,900 cases.

Black mothers were nearly twice as likely to have no obstetric procedures performed than white mothers, at a rate of 99.8 per 1,000 black mothers versus 56.1 per 1,000 white mothers, respectively. For both white and black women substantially lower rates of women delivered *without* obstetric procedure relative to 1998. In 1998, 144.0 per 1,000 black mothers had no obstetric procedure performed during delivery, while 64.2 per 1,000 white mothers did not have an obstetric procedure performed during delivery (*Table B34 and Table B35*).

Table B34.
Counts and Rates* of Obstetric Procedures by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Obstetric Procedure	All Ages						All Races**			
	All Races**		White		Black		Teens		35 and Older	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
None	4900	74.3	2115	56.1	2673	99.8	847	72.8	649	112.3
Electronic Fetal Monitoring	54986	834.0	32630	865.0	21208	792.1	9669	831.0	4480	775.1
Ultrasound	41201	624.9	24934	661.0	15318	572.1	6911	594.0	3586	620.4
Stimulation of labor	8020	121.6	4850	128.6	3003	112.2	1524	131.0	744	128.7
Induction of Labor	9699	147.1	6603	175.0	2903	108.4	1682	144.6	644	111.4
Tocolysis	513	7.8	298	7.9	204	7.6	109	9.4	49	8.5
Amniocentesis	494	7.5	255	6.8	229	8.6	40	3.4	183	31.7

*Rate per 1,000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the calendar year. 66059 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year.

***All races* includes white, black and other

Table B35.
Counts* of Obstetric Procedures by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Obstetric Procedure	Race	Total	Maternal Age													Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
None	All	4900	24	51	102	165	240	265	823	1396	1130	946	479	97	5	-
	White	2115	*	7	16	32	54	71	180	469	549	579	284	49	*	-
	Black	2673	20	44	85	132	185	190	636	909	547	330	183	45	*	-
	Other	112	*	-	*	*	*	*	7	18	34	37	12	*	-	-
Amniocentesis	All	494	*	*	*	7	10	14	37	105	89	95	124	40	*	-
	White	255	-	-	*	5	*	7	16	45	35	57	72	29	*	-
	Black	229	*	*	*	*	6	7	20	60	52	35	49	10	-	-
	Other	10	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	*	*	*	*	-	-
Electronic Fetal Monitoring	All	54986	213	442	1054	1729	2745	3486	9456	17378	14080	9264	3865	700	28	*
	White	32630	28	116	395	742	1277	1631	4161	9210	9475	6598	2691	447	20	-
	Black	21208	183	319	647	965	1436	1816	5183	7910	4252	2376	1071	224	7	*
	Other	1148	*	7	12	22	32	39	112	258	353	290	103	29	*	-
Induction of Labor	All	9699	35	57	162	273	484	671	1647	3232	2553	1530	606	94	*	-
	White	6603	9	18	83	152	290	382	925	2052	1927	1187	446	57	-	-
	Black	2903	25	38	79	119	188	284	708	1127	573	289	145	34	*	-
	Other	193	*	*	-	*	6	5	14	53	53	54	15	*	-	-
Stimulation of labor	All	8020	22	73	175	265	459	530	1502	2565	2028	1320	517	64	*	-
	White	4850	*	25	72	104	218	256	675	1407	1405	960	355	45	*	-
	Black	3003	20	48	102	158	238	268	814	1127	562	317	145	17	*	-
	Other	167	-	-	*	*	*	6	13	31	61	43	17	*	-	-
Tocolysis	All	513	*	*	21	15	26	43	108	177	130	61	30	6	-	-
	White	298	-	-	*	3	13	26	46	95	95	41	19	*	-	-
	Black	204	*	*	17	12	12	16	60	79	32	18	11	*	-	-
	Other	11	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	*	-	*	-	-
Ultrasound	All	41201	142	306	772	1247	1936	2508	6769	12773	10783	7070	3081	558	24	*
	White	24934	23	92	303	531	954	1229	3109	6893	7319	5052	2159	361	18	-
	Black	15318	117	208	460	697	960	1243	3568	5666	3175	1790	824	172	5	*
	Other	949	*	6	9	19	22	36	92	214	289	228	98	25	*	-
Other	All	1364	12	11	32	55	76	81	255	465	294	192	119	27	-	-
	White	530	*	*	5	9	17	23	55	155	139	100	66	13	-	-
	Black	819	10	10	27	45	59	58	199	306	152	86	52	14	-	-
	Other	15	-	-	-	*	-	-	*	*	*	6	*	-	-	-
Unknown	All	126	-	-	*	*	*	6	12	27	28	20	19	12	*	5
	White	88	-	-	-	-	*	*	6	14	19	18	15	10	*	*
	Black	36	-	-	*	*	*	*	6	12	8	*	*	*	-	*
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-

*This is not an unduplicated count. More than one procedure was noted on some birth certificates. 66059 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year.
 *** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Complications of Labor and/or Delivery

Complications of labor and/or delivery are recorded on the birth certificate by checking any of 15 listed complications, none, or other. More than one complication can be recorded on a birth certificate.

The three most commonly reported complications of labor and/or delivery were moderate or heavy meconium (34.7 per 1,000 mothers), fetal distress (34.4), and breech or malpresentation

(25.2). Rates varied considerably by race. The rates of moderate or heavy meconium and fetal distress were higher for black mothers (47.9 and 40.3 per 1,000 black mothers, respectively) than for white mothers (25.7 and 28.6, respectively), while the rate of breech/malpresentation was higher for white mothers (29.3) than for black mothers (19.7).

Among the 66,059 women who had 1 or more live births, no complications of labor and/or delivery were recorded in 49,785 cases. White mothers were more likely to have no reported complications than black mothers were, at a rate of 768.4 per 1,000 white mothers versus 736.2 per 1,000 black mothers, respectively.

Table B36.
Counts* and Rates of Complications of Labor and/or Delivery by Maternal Race and Age**
Louisiana, 1999

Complication	All Ages						All Races***			
	All Races		White		Black		Teens		35 and Older	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
No complication noted	49785	755.2	28987	768.4	19705	736.2	8516	732.2	4346	753.2
Meconium, moderate/heavy	2287	34.7	969	25.7	1281	47.9	36	3.1	176	31.0
Fetal distress	2268	34.4	1079	28.6	1142	40.3	476	40.9	211	37.2
Breech/Malpresentation	1664	25.2	1104	29.3	526	19.7	249	21.4	211	37.2
Cephalopelvic disproportion	1284	19.5	796	21.1	460	17.2	276	23.7	94	16.6
Febrile (> 100 degrees F)	832	12.6	412	10.9	394	14.7	222	19.1	78	13.7
Premature Rupture of membrane (>12 hours)	828	12.6	400	10.6	411	15.4	169	14.5	41	7.2
Precipitous labor (< 3 hours)	629	9.5	213	5.6	394	14.7	110	9.5	62	10.9
Dysfunctional labor	577	8.8	303	8.0	257	9.6	152	13.1	42	7.4
Abruptio placenta	243	3.7	132	3.5	106	4.0	31	2.7	35	6.2
Prolonged labor (> 20 hours)	149	2.3	65	1.7	79	3.0	31	2.7	10	-
Placenta previa	123	1.9	69	1.8	49	1.8	8	-	21	3.7
Cord prolapse	103	1.6	61	1.6	39	2.3	13	-	10	-
Other Excessive Bleeding	92	1.4	43	1.1	48	1.8	17	-	76	13.4
Anesthetic Complications	35	0.5	19	-	16	--	8	-	-	-
Seizures during labor	24	0.4	10	-	13	--	8	-	3	-

*This is not an unduplicated count. More than one procedure was noted on some birth certificates. 66059 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year.

**Rate per 1,000 mothers who had 1 or more live births during the calendar year

***"All Races" includes white, black and other

"-" in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

"--" in cell indicates counts is less than 20, making the calculated rate unreliable.

TABLE B37.
Counts* of Complications of Labor and/or Delivery by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Complication	Race	Total	Maternal Age													Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
No complication noted	All	49785	192	406	952	1552	2398	3016	8324	15627	12741	8553	3669	649	28	*
	White	28987	27	97	342	621	1056	1373	3489	8043	8439	6057	2507	406	19	-
	Black	19705	164	303	594	912	1309	1607	4725	7349	3967	2215	1055	220	8	*
	Other	1093	*	6	16	19	33	36	110	235	335	281	107	23	*	-
Febrile (<100 degrees F)	All	832	9	15	31	40	60	67	213	270	196	103	38	*	-	-
	White	412	*	*	9	13	23	27	76	135	108	68	22	*	-	-
	Black	394	7	11	22	27	35	37	132	128	80	31	15	*	-	-
	Other	26	*	-	-	-	*	*	5	7	8	*	*	-	-	-
Meconium, moderate/heavy	All	2287	9	27	70	101	158	165	521	748	521	312	144	31	*	-
	White	969	-	*	18	27	58	55	161	272	276	164	80	16	-	-
	Black	1281	9	24	52	74	100	108	358	465	232	142	60	14	*	-
	Other	37	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	11	13	6	*	*	-	-
Premature rupture of membrane (<12 hours)	All	828	*	13	18	31	43	61	166	277	178	126	65	12	*	-
	White	400	-	*	5	11	18	26	61	124	98	74	37	5	*	-
	Black	411	*	11	13	20	25	33	102	147	75	50	28	6	-	-
	Other	17	-	*	-	-	-	*	*	6	5	*	-	*	-	-
Abruptio Placenta	All	243	-	*	*	5	8	14	31	82	44	51	26	9	-	-
	White	132	-	*	-	*	5	*	11	36	27	30	21	7	-	-
	Black	106	-	*	*	*	*	11	20	46	15	19	5	*	-	-
	Other	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	*	-	-
Placenta previa	All	123	-	-	*	*	*	5	8	25	32	37	12	9	-	-
	White	69	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	13	17	23	8	7	-	-
	Black	49	-	-	*	*	*	*	7	12	14	12	*	*	-	-
	Other	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	-	-
Other excessive bleeding	All	92	*	*	-	*	7	6	16	25	26	14	6	*	*	-
	White	43	-	*	-	-	*	*	3	13	13	8	*	*	-	-
	Black	48	*	-	-	*	6	5	12	12	13	6	*	-	*	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	*	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seizures during labor	All	24	*	-	-	*	*	*	7	11	*	*	-	-	-	-
	White	10	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	*	-	-	-	-
	Black	13	*	-	-	*	*	*	*	6	*	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
Precipitous labor (<3 hours)	All	629	*	6	13	16	32	39	106	199	148	110	50	12	-	-
	White	213	-	-	*	*	12	9	28	47	62	50	21	5	-	-
	Black	394	*	5	10	12	20	30	77	150	77	54	27	5	-	-
	Other	22	-	*	-	-	-	-	*	*	9	6	*	*	-	-
Prolonged labor (>20 hours)	All	149	*	*	*	6	8	9	28	60	30	18	7	*	-	-
	White	65	-	-	-	*	*	*	6	27	15	11	*	*	-	-
	Black	79	*	*	*	5	7	*	21	31	14	7	*	*	-	-
	Other	5	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	-	*	-	-	-

*This is not an unduplicated count. More than one procedure was noted on some birth certificates. 66059 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year.

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Table B37 continues on the next page.

TABLE B37. (continued)
Counts* of Complications of Labor and/or Delivery by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Complication	Race	Total	Maternal Age													Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
Dysfunctional labor	All	577	8	7	21	23	43	50	144	203	121	59	35	7	-	-
	White	303	*	*	*	10	21	27	64	106	73	31	24	*	-	-
	Black	257	6	*	18	12	22	22	78	93	44	25	9	*	-	-
	Other	17	*	-	-	*	-	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	-	-
Breech/ malpresentation	All	1664	5	12	31	54	66	81	244	431	437	336	172	35	*	-
	White	1104	*	5	15	32	41	43	136	254	317	243	122	27	*	-
	Black	526	*	7	16	22	25	35	105	171	113	83	43	7	*	-
	Other	34	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	6	7	10	7	*	-	-
Cephalopelvic Disproportion	All	1284	14	10	29	56	78	89	262	388	316	210	76	17	*	-
	White	796	*	5	10	23	40	40	118	249	210	158	49	10	-	-
	Black	460	12	5	19	32	38	48	142	130	94	48	26	7	*	-
	Other	28	-	-	-	*	-	*	*	9	12	*	*	-	-	-
Cord Prolapse	All	103	*	-	*	*	*	5	12	24	37	14	15	-	-	-
	White	61	-	-	-	*	*	2	7	12	22	10	10	-	-	-
	Black	39	*	-	*	*	-	*	5	11	13	*	5	-	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	-	-	-	-
Anesthetic Complications	All	35	-	-	*	*	*	*	8	10	10	*	*	-	-	-
	White	19	-	-	-	*	-	*	*	5	5	*	*	-	-	-
	Black	16	-	-	*	*	*	*	*	5	5	-	*	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fetal Distress	All	2268	11	27	61	84	129	164	465	725	525	331	171	40	-	-
	White	1079	*	11	19	25	51	68	174	313	282	185	97	27	-	-
	Black	1142	9	15	42	58	78	96	289	406	230	128	68	12	-	-
	Other	47	*	*	-	*	-	-	*	6	13	18	6	*	-	-
Other	All	8293	33	77	146	278	441	564	1506	2568	2082	1390	599	114	*	-
	White	4572	*	19	53	113	195	248	628	1244	1309	927	394	68	-	-
	Black	3554	31	57	93	161	238	306	855	1283	722	428	195	39	*	-
	Other	167	-	*	-	*	8	10	23	41	51	35	10	7	-	-
Unknown	All	136	-	-	*	*	5	7	16	28	34	20	20	10	*	5
	White	87	-	-	-	-	*	*	5	15	24	15	14	8	*	*
	Black	45	-	-	*	*	*	*	11	12	8	5	5	*	-	*
	Other	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	-	*	-	-	-

*This is not an unduplicated count. More than one procedure was noted on some birth certificates. 66059 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Method of Delivery

Final 1999 data collected by the National Center for Health Statistics report that Louisiana had the second highest rate of cesarean deliveries in the country.

Over one quarter (26.8%) of all live births in Louisiana in 1999 were

cesarean deliveries, compared with 22.0% for the United States overall. Cesarean deliveries occurred more frequently among white mothers than among black mothers, at 27.5% versus 26.0% of live births, respectively. Cesarean deliveries

increased with age; with white mothers aged 40 and older having the highest percentage of live births (41.8%) delivered via cesarean section (*Figure B16, Table B38 and Table B39*).

Figure B16. Percents of Live Births by Cesarean Delivery, Maternal Age and Race Louisiana, 1999

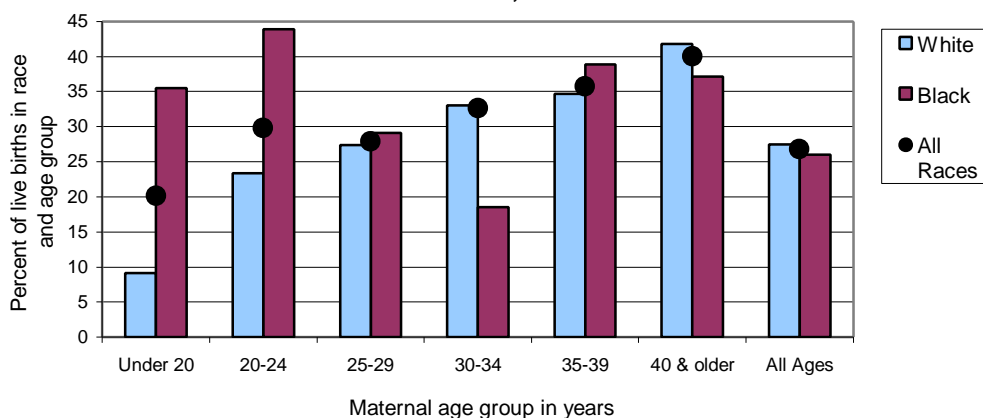


Table B38. Percents* of Live Births by Cesarean Delivery by Maternal Age and Race Louisiana, 1999

Maternal Race	Maternal Age Group						
	Under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 & older	All Ages
All Races**	20.1	29.8	27.9	32.7	35.7	40.0	26.8
White	9.2	23.4	27.4	33.0	34.6	41.8	27.5
Black	35.5	43.9	29.1	18.5	38.8	37.1	26.0

*Percents of live births in specified maternal age and race group

**"All Races" includes white, black and other

Table B39.
Counts* of Method of Delivery by Maternal Age and Race
Louisiana, 1999

Method	Race	Total	Maternal Age													Unk.
			Under 15	15	16	17	18	19	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & older	
Vaginal	All	43717	184	417	933	1491	2342	2904	8087	14168	10902	7004	2864	480	27	*
	White	24606	23	94	323	567	1028	1291	3303	7063	7097	4857	1955	291	17	-
	Black	18110	160	316	598	906	1278	1574	4672	6870	3502	1907	821	168	9	*
	Other	1001	*	7	12	18	36	39	112	235	303	240	88	21	*	-
Vaginal \ Forceps	All	2049	7	21	52	92	140	147	452	603	560	292	117	18	-	-
	White	1512	*	12	28	55	87	101	283	427	462	235	92	12	-	-
	Black	496	5	9	24	34	52	46	165	164	86	49	21	6	-	-
	Other	41	*	-	-	*	*	-	*	12	12	8	*	-	-	-
Vaginal \ Forceps & Vacuum	All	52	-	-	*	*	-	*	7	22	12	6	5	-	-	-
	White	37	-	-	*	*	-	*	*	16	9	6	*	-	-	-
	Black	15	-	-	*	*	-	-	*	6	*	-	*	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vaginal \ Vacuum	All	1367	11	22	38	62	93	122	337	472	303	162	70	12	-	-
	White	774	*	*	15	28	40	57	143	260	208	107	45	9	-	-
	Black	565	9	18	22	33	53	64	190	204	89	48	22	*	-	-
	Other	28	-	*	*	*	-	*	*	8	6	7	*	-	-	-
Vaginal birth after previous C-Section	All	837	-	*	8	8	21	43	81	292	230	167	57	10	-	-
	White	365	-	-	-	*	*	11	18	89	113	108	34	*	-	-
	Black	455	-	*	8	*	18	32	63	198	110	56	21	7	-	-
	Other	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	7	*	*	-	-	-
Vaginal birth after previous C-Section \ Forceps	All	55	-	-	-	*	*	-	5	13	23	10	*	*	-	-
	White	34	-	-	-	*	-	-	*	8	15	8	*	*	-	-
	Black	19	-	-	-	*	*	-	*	5	7	*	*	-	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	*	-	-	-
Vaginal birth after previous C-Section \ Forceps & Vacuum	All	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
	White	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Black	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vaginal birth after Previous C-Section \ Vacuum	All	33	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	10	11	6	*	*	-	-
	White	17	-	-	-	*	-	-	*	*	7	*	*	-	-	-
	Black	15	-	-	-	*	*	*	*	6	*	*	-	*	-	-
	Other	*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-
Primary C-Section	All	10200	57	92	238	373	560	693	1956	3032	2436	1686	833	195	5	-
	White	5874	9	29	83	162	247	323	844	1639	1590	1140	525	124	*	-
	Black	4109	47	63	152	206	308	360	1089	1345	787	489	286	64	*	-
	Other	217	*	-	*	5	5	10	23	48	59	57	22	7	-	-
Repeat C-Section	All	7119	-	-	13	48	78	148	287	1877	2119	1801	869	161	*	*
	White	4295	-	-	*	15	23	53	94	889	1338	1283	582	106	*	-
	Black	2705	-	-	10	33	54	92	189	974	739	481	271	49	*	*
	Other	119	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	14	42	37	16	6	-	-
Unknown	All	629	6	8	14	37	49	58	166	187	122	73	47	20	*	5
	White	295	-	*	7	6	18	14	47	88	63	46	32	13	*	*
	Black	320	6	6	7	31	31	43	118	98	54	22	14	6	-	*
	Other	14	-	-	-	-	-	*	*	*	5	5	*	*	-	-

*66059 women had 1 or more live births during the calendar year

*** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

Attendant at Birth

Almost all live births took place in hospitals and were attended by physicians. There were no racial differences in either of these delivery characteristics (*Figure B17 and Figure B18*).

Figure B17. Percents of Live Births by Type of Birth Attendant Louisiana, 1999

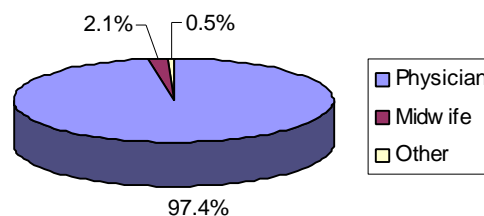
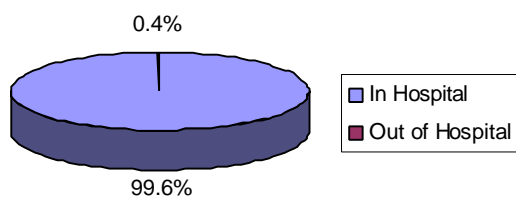


Figure B18. Percents of Live Births by Birthing Facilities Louisiana, 1999



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